

A  
DESCRIPTION  
OF THE  
CHANNORY,  
CATHEDRAL,  
AND  
KING'S COLLEGE  
OF  
OLD ABERDEEN.

In the Years 1724 and 1725.

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BY  
WILLIAM OREM,  
TOWN-CLERK of OLD ABERDEEN.

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ABERDEEN:

Printed by J. CHALMERS and Co.  
MDCCLXCI.



The author of the following Description of Aberdeen was William Orem, town-clerk of that city about 1725; soon after which time he died. Copies of his MS. are in various hands. One in the library of King's College there consists of six two pages. It contains a great many miscellaneous articles relating to the cathedral and its appurtenances, and the manes of the prebends. At p. 109, we have an inventory of the silver plate and vestments belonging to the cathedral, as delivered out by William Gordon the last Roman Catholic bishop, to be put in the custody of private gentlemen, under a power reserved to him, July 1725. The plate valued at £801. 80s. The silver and gold plate contained in the same closet hand, and is entitled "A list of the plate, and genuine account of the University of King's college of Aberdeen." At p. 29 is inserted an inventory in Latin of the plate and vestments belonging to the college chapel, or the altar and furniture in the hall and chambers, the bells in the steeple, &c. taken at a visitation by the rectory, James Buchanan, parson of Belhelvie, 1741; to which is appended a curious note of the sums belonging to the college in the Scottish language.

The present work was printed from a translation in French duodecimo pages, made by James Dalrymple, surgeon and apothecary at Aberdeen, who had been educated at King's college, but through indolence and neglect of business was reduced at the age of 26 to insupportable poverty, of his friends. Of him Mr. Gough, when he visited Aberdeen in 1771, purchased the MS. It is now found to differ materially from those in our hands; the Editor hopes for the favour of collations from the several proprietors. As this tract being principally confined to the Bishoprick, Monastery, and Colleges of Aberdeen, may be considered rather as a topographical than a civil history.



# P R E F A C E.

**T**HE author of the following Description of Aberdeen was William Orem, town-clerk of that city about 1725; soon after which time he died. Copies of his MS. are in various hands. One in the library of King's college there consists of 212 8vo. pages. "It comprehends a great many miscellaneous articles relating to the cathedral and bishop's palace, and the manses of the prebends. At p. 107, we have an inventory of the silver plate and vestments belonging to the cathedral, as delivered out by William Gordon the last Roman catholic bishop, to be kept in the custody of private gentlemen, under an obligation to restore them, July 17, 1559. The plate amounts to 108 lb. 8 oz. \*. The second part contains 91 pages of the same close hand, and is intitled 'A larger, more exact, and genuine account of the University of King's college of Aberdeen.' At p. 59 is inserted an inventory in Latin of the plate and vestments belonging to the college chapel, of the arras and furniture in the hall and chambers, the bells in the steeple, &c. taken at a visitation by the rector, James Strachan, parson of Belhelvie, 1542†; to which is subjoined a curious note of the arms belonging to the college in the Scottish language ‡."

The present work was printed from a transcript in 360 duodecimo pages, made by James Dalgarno, surgeon and apothecary at Aberdeen, who had been educated at King's college, but through indolence and neglect of business was reduced at the age of 60 to subsist on the kindness of his friends. Of him Mr. Gough, when he visited Aberdeen in 1771, purchased the MS. If it should be found to differ materially from those in other hands, the Editor hopes for the favour of collations from the several proprietors.

As this tract, being principally confined to the Bishoprick, Monastery, and Colleges of Aberdeen, may be considered rather as the ecclesiastical than the civil history of

\* See p. 100.

† See p. 162.

‡ Brit. Topog. II. 643.

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the place; we flatter ourselves some native may be excited to continue Mr. Orem's plan, and transmit to us materials for a Second Part of this work, which, by the help of "The description of Aberdeenshire by Sir Samuel Forbes of Foveran \*;" description of Aberdeen annexed to James Barclay's "Memorials for governing of royal burghs in Scotland, 1685," 12°; and William Barclay on the mineral waters discovered here, compared with an older essay on the same waters, might form a connected civil and natural history of this place.

Mr. Pennant celebrates Aberdeen as a fine city, extensive, populous, industrious in a stocking and thread manufacture, and a salmon fishery. Old Aberdeen, about a mile North of the other, is a poor town, having nothing but the cathedral and college to distinguish it or give it consequence. "The episcopal cities of Scotland," says Dr. Johnson †, "I believe generally fell with their churches, tho' some of them have been recovered by a situation convenient for commerce. Thus Glasgow, though it has no longer an archbishop, has risen beyond its original state, by the opulence of its traders; and Aberdeen, though its ancient stock has decayed, flourishes by a new shoot in another place."

While the English Universities carry their antiquity almost beyond the date of Learning itself in that kingdom, Scotland had nothing on that general plan till the beginning of the 15th century. The University of St. Andrew's was founded 1411, that at Glasgow 1452. Bishop Elphinston's foundation at Old Aberdeen was third to these in order of time, and was imitated a century after by George Earl Marischal. These, though styled colleges, are, as Dr. Johnson observes, "in stricter language, each an university; for in both there are professors of the same parts of learning, and the colleges hold their sessions and confer degrees separately, with total independence of one on the other."

"In Old Aberdeen stands the King's college, of which the first president was *Hector Boece*, or *Boethius*, who

\* See Brit. Top. II. 642.

† Tour. 49.



# PREFACE.

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may be justly revered as one of the revivers of elegant learning. When he studied at Paris, he was acquainted with *Erasmus*, who afterwards gave him a public testimony of his esteem, by inscribing to him a catalogue of his works. The style of Boethius, though perhaps, not always rigorously pure, is formed with great diligence upon ancient models, and wholly uninfected with monastic barbarity. His history is written with elegance and vigour, but his fabulousness and credulity are justly blamed. His fabulousness, if he was the author of the fictions, is a fault for which no apology can be made; but his credulity may be excused in an age when all men were credulous. Learning was then rising on the world; but ages, so long accustomed to darkness, were too much dazzled with its light to see any thing distinctly. The first race of scholars, in the fifteenth century, and some time after, were, for the most part, learning to speak rather than to think, and were therefore more studious of elegance than of truth. The contemporaries of Boethius thought it sufficient to know what the ancients had delivered. The examination of tenets and of facts was reserved for another generation.

Boethius, as president of the university, enjoyed a revenue of forty Scottish marks, about two pounds four shillings and six pence of sterling money. In the present age of trade and taxes, it is difficult even for the imagination so to raise the value of money, or so to diminish the demands of life, as to suppose four and forty shillings a year an honourable stipend; yet it was probably equal, not only to the needs, but to the rank of Boethius. The wealth of England was undoubtedly to that of Scotland more than five to one; and it is known that Henry the Eighth, among whose faults avarice was never reckoned, granted to Roger Ascham, as a reward of his learning, a pension of ten pounds a year.

The other, called the Marischal college, is in the new town. The hall is large and well lighted. One of its ornaments is the picture of Arthur Johnson, who was principal of the college, and who holds among the  
 “ Latin

“ Latin poets of Scotland the next place to the elegant  
 “ Buchanan.

“ In both these colleges the methods of instruction are  
 “ nearly the same; the lectures differing only by the ac-  
 “ cidental difference of diligence or ability in the pro-  
 “ fessors. The students wear scarlet gowns, and the pro-  
 “ fessors black; which is, I believe, the academical dress  
 “ in all the Scottish universities, except that of Edin-  
 “ burgh, where the scholars are not distinguished by any  
 “ particular habit. In the King's college there is kept a  
 “ public table, but the scholars of the Marischal college  
 “ are boarded in the town. The expence of living is  
 “ here, according to the information that I could obtain,  
 “ somewhat more than at St. Andrew's.

“ The course of education is extended to four years, at  
 “ the end of which those who take a degree, who are not  
 “ many, become masters of arts, and whoever is a master  
 “ may, if he pleases, immediately become a doctor. The  
 “ title of doctor, however, was for a considerable time  
 “ bestowed only on physicians. The advocates are ex-  
 “ amined and approved by their own body; the ministers  
 “ were not ambitious of titles, or were afraid of being  
 “ censured for ambition; and the doctorate in every fa-  
 “ culty was commonly given or sold in other countries.  
 “ The ministers are now reconciled to distinction, and as  
 “ it must always happen that some will excel others, have  
 “ thought graduation a proper testimony of uncommon  
 “ abilities or acquisition.

“ The indiscriminate collation of degrees has justly  
 “ taken away that respect which they originally claimed,  
 “ as stamps by which the literary value of men so dis-  
 “ tinguished was authoritatively denoted. That academical  
 “ honours, or any others, should be conferred with exact  
 “ proportion to merit, is more than human judgment or  
 “ human integrity have given reason to expect. Per-  
 “ haps degrees in universities cannot be better adjusted by  
 “ any general rule than by the length of time passed in  
 “ the public profession of learning. An English or Irish  
 “ doctorate cannot be obtained by a very young man, and  
 “ it is reasonable to be suppose, what is likewise by ex-  
 “ perience

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“ perience commonly found true, that he who is by age  
 “ qualified to be a doctor, has in so much time gained  
 “ learning sufficient not to disgrace the title, or wit suffi-  
 “ cient not to desire it.

“ The Scots universities hold but one term or session in  
 “ the year. That of St. Andrew’s continues eight months,  
 “ that of Aberdeen only five, from the first of November  
 “ to the first of April.”

Boethius, besides the “ copious and florid but credul-  
 “ ous” History of Scotland \*, wrote also in Latin the  
 lives of the bishops of Murlach and Aberdeen, printed at  
 Paris by Badius Ascensius, 1522, 4to. from which we  
 have extracted the life of bishop Elphinston, subjoined  
 hereto as containing a succinct account of his foundation  
 here, by a contemporary.

The first book printed in Scotland is supposed to be  
 “ Breviarum ad usum & consuetudinem percelebris ec-  
 “ clesie cathedralis Aberdonensis in Scotia, regnante Ja-  
 “ cobo IV. principe nostro serenissimo, divina favente  
 “ clementia Scotorum rege illustrissimo, imperii sui anno  
 “ vicesimo secundo [anno scilicet Christi 1509], pro  
 “ hyemali parte feliciter sumit exordium. Eiusdem bre-  
 “ varii pars æstivalis, per reverendum in Christo pa-  
 “ trem Wilelmum, Abirdon. episcopum, studiosius, maxi-  
 “ misque cum laboribus collect. non solum ad ecclesie  
 “ sue Abirdonensis, verum etiam ad totius ecclesie Sco-  
 “ ticanæ usum percelebrem: oppido Edinburgensi im-  
 “ pressa, jussu & impensis honorabilis viri Walteri Chap-  
 “ man, ejusdem oppidi mercatoris, quarto die mensis Julii,  
 “ anno Domini millesimo ccccc decimo.” Each volume  
 consisting of two parts \*. Both parts in the Advocates’ li-  
 brary. Both volumes want the title pages, besides some  
 leaves or sheets in the middle of each, but the first is more  
 defective than the second: at the end of the latter is the  
 annexed colophon; the words in Italic are printed in red  
 ink in the original. “ Laus Deo, cujus gracia finis adest  
 “ presenti opusculo *æstivalis* partis breviarii divinorum offi-  
 “ ciorum de tempore et de sanctis; ac *Davitico psalterio*

\* Robertson’s Hist. of Scotl. c. 3.

† Ames’s History of Printing, p. 573.



“ congruenter per ferias diviso: cum invitatoriis, hymnis,  
 “ antiphonis, capitulis, responforiis, non communi sancto-  
 “ rum, plurimarum virginum et matronarum cum kalen-  
 “ dario et mobilium festorum *tabula perpetua*: cum diver-  
 “ sorum sanctorum legendis, que antea sparsim vagaban-  
 “ tur, et nonnullis aliis adjunctis sacerdotibus quam ne-  
 “ cessariis, per *reverendum* in Christo patrem *Wilelmum*  
 “ *Aberdonensem episcopum* studiosius maximisque cum la-  
 “ boribus collectis, non solum ad ecclesie suae *Aberdonensis*,  
 “ verum etiam ad totius ecclesie *Scoticane* usum percele-  
 “brem. Opido *Edinburgensi* impresso jussu et impensis  
 “ honorabilis viri *Walteri Chapman*, ejusdem opidi mer-  
 “ catoris, quarto die mensis Julii, anno Domini millesimo  
 “ *CCCCC. decimo.*” On the back of this page there is  
 a curious wooden print \* representing two savages at full  
 length; their heads are adorned with flowers, and they  
 have in their hands flower stalks; their bodies are cloth-  
 ed with skins of wild beasts, with a girdle of flowers;  
 and their legs bare from the ankle downward. Betwixt  
 these two figures stands a tree, upon which is suspended a  
 shield Sable † with W. and C. in cypher Argent: at the  
 bottom between two black lines are these two words,  
 “† *Walterus † chapman S.*”

In the library of King's college here ‡ is a fair original  
 chartulary from the foundation of the see to the last catho-  
 lic

\* This would seem to prove that the art of printing was first intro-  
 duced into Scotland from France, and probably the types, &c. came  
 from thence; for this kind of device was at time peculiar to the French  
 printers.

† This cut agrees with Pignonet's *Salisbury* and *Rouen* Heures, ex-  
 cept in the cypher.

‡ *Nicoll: Sc. H. Lib. p. 211. 213. 216.* In the same library is a copy  
 in eleven fols. folio pages of *Spalding's History of Scotland*. It begins  
 1424 and ends 1645. The author was commissary-clerk of Aberdeen,  
 and has taken pains to commit to writing as he received them such ac-  
 counts of the public transactions as he could obtain in that remote cor-  
 ner. They are greatly misrepresented; but the greater and more valu-  
 able part of the book relates to the particular occurrences in *Aberdeen-*  
*shire* and the neighbouring counties, which represent in a strong light the  
 fermentations that prevailed in the minds of their ancestors, and the  
 barbarity of their manners. *Spalding* is a royalist, but speaks with great  
 candour of the opposite party, and with particular respect of some co-  
 venanting ministers, whom he extolls as good preachers: but of Mr.

Andrew

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lic bishop; also original registers of the cathedral plate, &c. the statutes of the church; and "Statuta generalis ecclesiæ Scoticanæ;" out of all which Dr. Jameson compiled a "Chartularium ecclesiæ Aberdonensis," of which bishop Nicolson, who saw the MS. in the hands of Mr. Thomas Innes, has given an abstract.

Mr. Ogilvie, professor of Humanity there, favoured Mr. Gough with the following account of it. It consists of 91 leaves, and contains, "1. Constitutiones ecclesiæ Abberdonensis apostolica autoritate per reverendum in Christo fratrem, colendissimumq; virum magistrum Patrium de Ramsay, dictæ ecclesiæ quondam pontificem, editæ anno 1256." These are followed by the novel constitutions of bishop Cheyne, and others, intermixed with charters of donations from the earls of Mar and some Scottish kings, making in all 34 folio pages. "2. Thesauria ecclesiæ cathedralis Abberdonensis, 24 Aprilis, per decanum & capitulum ejusdem reperta & visitata A. D. millesimo quingentesimo decimo octavo, 3. Exemplaria cartarum infeodationis & fundationis ecclesiæ & episcopatus Murchlaidensis & Aberdonensis." The first five charters are, one by Malcolm III. one by David I. and three by Malcolm IV. In all these the place, day of the month, and year of the king's reign, are marked at length: four are signed *teste meipso*, and one of Malcom IV. *teste meipso* & Edwardo cancellario, Willelmo camerario & multis aliis.

These particulars do not agree with any other charters of these kings which Mr. Ogilvie has seen. Other charters of subsequent kings follow, and among them "Preceptum regis Roberti (II.) aldarmano de Abberdyn super observationem libertatum antiquarum episcopii & ecclesiæ Abberdonensis in portu mari & terra." "4. Limites terrarum, or a collection of charters of marches of the bishops land. 5. De ordinatione chori ecclesiæ cathedralis Aberdonensis." There is another charter of this house in the Advocates' library.

Andrew Cant, and the presbyterian clergy in general, he loves to tell every prejudice he can. The style is vulgar, but has merit. The account of Montrose's expeditions, and of the family of Huntley, might furnish matter for national history. The original is in the hands of lord Forbes. Sir James Reid of Barra had another copy.

"In.

“ Inventarium jocalium auri & argenti, nec non aliorum  
 “ ornamentorum ecclesiæ cathedralis Aberdonensis pro  
 “ divino officio intra eandem deputatorum & ordina-  
 “ torum tam in cappis, casulis, dalmaticis, ex auro tex-  
 “ tili & holeserico, ac variis encis ad altaris ejusdem ad de-  
 “ corem domus Dei assignatorum, per venerabilem vi-  
 “ rum magistrum Alexandrum Galloway, ejusdem ec-  
 “ clesie canonicum ac prebendarium a Kynkyl in ea-  
 “ dem, instantia & supplicatione capituli dicte ecclesie ca-  
 “ nonnicorum ejusdem pro tempore representantium eccle-  
 “ siam apud cannoniam Aberdonensis; idibus Januarii,  
 “ anno a Christo nato nono & quadragesimo supra millesi-  
 “ mum & quingentesimum post redemptionem eorundem  
 “ de manibus quondam Jacobi Forbes a Corfindae, suor-  
 “ umque satellitum raptorum.” MS. on parchment, 44  
 leaves; from all of which some former writing has been  
 erased. In King's college library. From a narrative sub-  
 joined it appears that bishop Stewart, alarmed by the tu-  
 mults of the times, 1544, meant to send the jewels, plate,  
 and vestments belonging to his cathedral into the country  
 to be concealed, reserving only six chalices; but as his ser-  
 vants were conveying them away, they were violently seiz-  
 ed a little beyond the bridge of Don by James Forbes of  
 Corfindae, who detained them till the bishop ransomed  
 them for 600 merks: nor was complete restitution then  
 made. A list of 12 pieces of plate detained and applied to  
 profane uses is added in Scottish language\*.

\* Brit. Topog. II. 643—646.

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THE



THE LIFE OF  
WILLIAM ELPHINSTONE,

BISHOP OF ABERDEEN;

Translated from HECTOR BOETHIUS' *Lives of the Bishops of  
MURTHLAC and ABERDEEN.*

ON the translation of bishop Robert to Glasgow, WILLIAM ELPHINSTON was appointed to succeed him by the universal consent and wish: a man whom one may without hesitation pronounce the most experienced of his contemporaries; whose life I shall here attempt to delineate; and though my style may seem ill suited to my subject, yet I trust the fidelity of my narrative will not be called in question, as we are most of us well acquainted with his conduct, both civil and religious. We have seen a man whose excellent character will make us rejoice in the contemplation of it, and give most hearty thanks to Almighty God so long as we live. This man is the subject of our present work.

He was born in the famous city of Glasgow, celebrated for its University, and descended from the ancient family of Elphinston. When he was scarce four years old, he happened to be missing by the carelessness of those who looked after him; he was found after some search in the inmost chapel of the cathedral at Glasgow, prostrate before an image of the Virgin, and it was not without much difficulty and much childish crying and tears, they could get him away home; so great was his desire to contemplate the image, that it was by many considered as an omen of future devotion to the Holy Virgin. At the age of seven he was committed to the ablest masters, to be instructed in good morals and learning. After some application to grammar, he shewed a capacity surpassing his years, and made such a proficiency that he early discovered what was to be expected from him, and gave the most flattering hopes. The Bishop of Glasgow was so charmed with the lad's disposition, that he would never sit down to supper till

till he had sent for William, and heard him repeat some sentences or verses. Every one was delighted with his behaviour, capacity, and person, which were all so engaging, that the opening seeds of learning and virtue became very conspicuous in him, and rendered him agreeable to all. I cannot here omit a circumstance which happened to him when a boy. He dreamed that he was on his knees before the Virgin, as was his constant practice when awake, and that he was earnestly intreating her favour, that he might never willingly fall under the impression of any criminal or mean principle, but pass his whole life in tranquillity and holiness. The Virgin answered him, "Apply yourself wholly to virtuous practice; and when you attain the pontifical dignity for which I intend you, take care of the Christian religion, and repair my temples." His tutor hearing the boy groan in his sleep, waked him, and asked what was the matter with him: the lad having with difficulty told him what had happened, the other with his usual prudence and tenderness bid him dry up his tears, say nothing of the matter, apply himself to virtuous pursuits, and lay no stress on dreams: at the same time revolving in his own mind some great event likely to befall his pupil. In his early years he was fond of tranquillity and silence, affable and obedient to his instructors and familiars; so that it was easy to discern the seeds of his future constancy and magnanimity; yet the earlier part of his life passed in studies not sufficiently suitable to such a genius. When he had attained his 20th year, he applied himself to logic and metaphysics, in which he made such a progress that he soon surpassed his equals. When he had completed his philosophical studies, and arrived at the age of 25, he took his Master's degree in Arts, and was ordained priest. He was taken off his studies for some years by his parents, not only on account of his health, but to look after their affairs, which he did with incredible application and readiness, and gained the goodwill of all.

Though he seemed born principally for learning, he shewed his capacity not less adapted to family and civil concerns, and his friends entertained equal hopes of his

learning

his learning and prudence. But soon despising the conduct of a family, aspiring yet modestly to a higher reputation, he applied himself to the study of canon law, and attended the most approved professors in the University of Glasgow. He next applied himself to the practice of the courts, and shewed himself strictly attentive to justice and truth, a severe censor of injustice, and rigid patron of equity, and was esteemed the advocate general where he pleaded the cause of the poor and wretched. But either at the solicitation of his friends, or from a too modest opinion of his own abilities, he retired from the bar into the country, to digest at leisure the various lessons he had formerly received from his different instructors. He spent four years on the care of St. Michael's church, which had been conferred on him, as I may say, by his parishioners. In this retreat he was never idle or inactive; not a single hour passed in which he was not writing, dictating, or making extracts; and his whole time by day and night was divided between study and prayer. His life was such as every private Christian ought to lead: reading and prayer succeeding each other in constant regularity.

But as he was born to greater things, he could not long continue to lead a private life. His uncle Laurence Elphinstone, an excellent man, recalled him to Glasgow, with a severe rebuke for suffering such an active genius, so calculated to promote the honour and advantage of his family, to remain unimproved in any instance: adding that he should go to a distance from his country and his friends to improve himself in foreign manners and learning, if he had any ambition; that honour and dignity would arise from his labours, and fresh accession of knowledge from his travels: and that he would be answerable for all his expences. This advice had the desired effect; William set out in high spirits for France. He went to Paris, the university of which was then in high repute; and such was the result of his application there, that his former advances seemed as nothing to it: what he heard from the professors and preachers in the day he would recite by himself at night. Temperate to excess in sleep and refreshment, unwearied in his application, it was difficult to



determine whether he studied harder by day or by night. His intenseness was the astonishment of Paris; nor could his virtue remain long concealed. He was soon advanced to the post of first reader of canon law; a post conferred at Paris only on the most learned in both branches of law. Such was his proficiency here also, such his diligence in explaining the sacred canons, as attracted the eyes of all the students in that line, and he was heard for six years by a crowded audience with greater attention than any of his predecessors. At the end of this period after he took his degree in the decretals, he went to Orange, where he spent some years in canvassing the obscure and difficult parts of his profession with the professors of law there, who were esteemed the most learned of their time, and in his public discourses he elucidated certain propositions before the doctors of law with so much perspicuity and propriety of language, that he was held in universal admiration, respect and veneration. His name was so esteemed among the magistrates of France, that the parliament of Paris frequently consulted him in determinations of importance. He maintained such a reputation among the great personages of that kingdom, that their esteem for him daily increased, and with it the number of his agreeable friends. The chief of these was John de Ganai, afterwards high chancellor of France, a person of prime learning and authority at that time there. The warmest friendship subsisted between them to the end of their lives.

William was now recalled by his parents to Scotland, with high reputation for learning and eloquence. He paid his first visit to the bishop of Glasgow, who was an admirable patron of learning and learned men, and received him with every expression of esteem and kindness. He illustrated certain intricate questions in the canon law in a public discourse pronounced almost extempore, in such a manner that astonished both the bishop and his clergy. These qualifications procured him to be appointed Official of Glasgow, an office to which was annexed a very extensive power, and which was never conferred but on men of eminent learning. William administered this office with wonderful address and impartial justice, restraining  
litigious

litigious claims, inexorable to oppression and the perversers of the law ; having this saying always in his mouth, that he who spares bad men is an enemy to good men. By this means he laid the foundation of his future greatness. But it was impossible to conceal such a light under a bushel : it could not be confined within the district of Glasgow. King James and the lords of the kingdom invited him to Edinburgh, to avail themselves of his advice in different emergencies. There he held the officialty of St. Andrew with great reputation. He had not long after the honor of being called to a seat among the privy council, where he maintained a most religious observance of right and equity, admitting no distinction between advantage and honesty. This established him a most excellent character, and occasioned him to be consulted on matters of the greatest moment. His decrees being all approved, opened his way to further advancement, and he was joined together with the bishop of Dunkeld and the earl of Buchan chief justice of the kingdom, in an embassy from James III. to Lewis XI. of France, on which occasion he effectually removed the causes of suspicion ready to break out into animosity between the two kings by the instigation of some evil-minded and malicious persons, and confirmed the ancient alliance between the two nations by a most elegant speech before the French king's council. Lewis conceived such an esteem for him, that he gave him a place among his own counsellors. The ambassadors received a public answer, and after a most handsome reception and a stay of some months, returned home loaded with presents. James was so well satisfied with the success of their embassy, that he promoted William to the see of Ross, though with much reluctance on his part. On his friend's remonstrating to him on this unwillingness to accept a place, he replied, " Ross is not to be our see, but where our patroness the Virgin mother of God shall please," alluding to what he had seen in his dream. He was afterwards admitted to the king's privy council, and so high was his credit, that almost all the great affairs of the nation were conducted under his direction, and by his advice. As this introduced him to a greater familiarity with

the king, he advised him to leave off his debauch and avaricious life, and put a stop to the ravages of the marauders who overrun the country, which was at that time overspread and laid waste by the remains of the late war, and content himself with his faithful consort queen Margaret, who was of royal descent, and had already brought him three sons. He added, the barons who were persons of considerable property could serve the state both in the cabinet and field, and the commons he protected from every insult, while the king passed his life in devotion and in the exercise of mercy so worthy a sovereign. The bishop's repeated exhortations wrought such a happy change in the king, that he was frequently seen at the feet of Christ and his Virgin Mother, pouring out tears and prayers for his own and his kingdom's welfare, bestowing large sums on the poor and the ministers of Christ; and there was hardly a church or chapel in his dominions but bore the marks of his devotion. About the same time the bishop of Imola, legate from the pope, came to the king as usual with great splendor to solicit ample privileges for the nobility and commons. The king received him in a manner suitable to his rank, and carried him about with him wherever he went, being delighted with the conversation of the foreigner. It happened that the king going to Laurestan on pilgrimage, met a nobleman convicted of murder going to execution, who no sooner saw him, than he threw himself at his feet, and earnestly implored his mercy not to suffer him to be made a public example for an involuntary crime. The king, who was naturally of a temper inclined to pardon, turning to the legate, to whom he wished to pay the compliment of prompting this act of mercy, asked his opinion on the matter. The legate recommended the enforcing of justice. The king then turned to William, whose countenance he saw discovered that he disapproved the legate's answer: Such, said he, is the compassion of the Italians; you used to give me very different advice; let mercy be shewn: and immediately discharged the criminal. The king's kindness to William increast every day, and as often as any great undertaking was to be carried on in the kingdom, he was pitched upon to take the lead.



lead in it : such was the propriety of his conduct, and the acuteness of his judgment.

About this time were sown the seeds of the bloody war between Edward king of England and James III. To heal this cruel wound, our prelate was sent ambassador to England ; and he executed his commission so well, that by his sole management the minds of the two princes were conciliated to each other, and the foundation was laid for a perpetual peace, had not a war broke out between Alexander duke of Albany and his sovereign ; and the former flying his country was received with open arms by Edward, who furnished him with troops and money against his brother. This was soon after followed by a declaration of war between the two nations. Our sovereign began to be more apprehensive of his own subjects than of the English, as many of the nobility seemed to incline to the duke of Albany. After various trials of skill, William was sent a second time ambassador to Edward, to bring about a general peace, and a reconciliation with the duke. Things succeeded to his wish ; he met with a very handsome reception, and brought about a reconciliation between the duke and the king, and settled a peace. For this service he was immediately on his return advanced to the see of Aberdeen, and some years after to the post of high chancellor.

About this time broke out the unnatural war between the king and his eldest son, afterwards James IV. ; and though our bishop could not succeed in bringing them to an accommodation, he left nothing unattempted that a wise and good man could have suggested, and adhered all the time to the king \*. When the war was finished, he returned

\* James III. adopted his father and grandfather's system of breaking the aristocratic power in Scotland, but pursued it in a different manner. He slighted his nobles, and gave himself up to artists, whom he made his favourites. His brothers Alexander duke of Albany and James earl of Mar caballed against him. The latter he caused to be privately put to death : the other fled to France, and formed an alliance with England. The king found himself under the necessity of soliciting the support of his nobles, who first hanged his favourites, and then effected a short-lived reconciliation between him and his brother. But the same scene

returned to Aberdeen, drew up excellent regulations for his clergy, and restored the service, which during the war had been for several years neglected. He ordained the chant to be celebrated in the ancient manner; appointed John Malison, an experienced musician, and a worthy man, to direct the service in the church of Aberdeen, and to keep the rituals. To this man the people of Aberdeen are indebted for their knowledge of music; and to him they are likewise indebted for every performance in that science, and for the exact celebration of service in the said church. There was scarce a considerable singer in the city who did not take his lessons from him. William meditated many other laudable reformatations there; when he was sent for to court, and appointed counsellor to James IV. who received him kindly, and with the same respect as his father had formerly done, which obliged him to defer his design to some future opportunity. There still subsisted some remains of the ancient enmity between the nobility, which if not removed threatened to break out into greater mischiefs. All these William with great pains and application entirely extinguished, and even the very seeds of discontent and sedition. King James having now no enemy at home or abroad, turned his thoughts, by his advice, to the improvement and advancement of the state. He reformed the administration of justice by itinerant justices, who by the iniquity of the times had for some years neglected to punish the various crimes that disturbed the public peace. When tranquility was almost universally restored, a parliament was called at Edinburgh, in which it

was presently acted over again. The duke of Albany was, by the death of Edward IV. of England, obliged to give up his opposition. But a more formidable one succeeded. James's own son was set up by the malcontents against his father, who took the field against him, and lost his life in the battle of Bannockburn. "Suspicion, indolence, immoderate attachment to favourites, and all the vices of a feeble mind are visible in his conduct," Robertson II. 56—61. According to Rapin (VI. 140—145) James broke the truce with England without reason, and the Duke of Albany treated with Edward IV. to be set on the throne of Scotland. The duke of Gloucester entered that kingdom and took Edinburgh. Peace was restored by the intervention of the duke of Albany, and being soon after broken, he renewed his treaty with Edward IV. and was killed in an engagement 1483.

was

was resolved to send an embassy to the Emperor Maximilian, to ask his daughter Margaret in marriage; an alliance to which the young king aspired, as an addition to his dignity. All votes were in favour of our prelate for this commission, and he was accompanied by several of the nobility. But the design failed of success by the prior designation of the princess to the prince of Spain.

About the same time, Edward \*, who styled himself son of the renowned Edward king of England, landed in Scotland with a large body of troops from Flanders, and by the assistance of king James began his march into England, to recover his paternal dominions from Henry, who then held the crown. James would not permit him to enter his kingdom, till Henry had refused an answer to the complaints of breach of treaty and depredations brought by heralds commissioned by parliament; which occasioned the war that afterwards ensued between the two nations. Henry finding war now unavoidable, with his usual foresight sent 60 frigates and 40 transports full of troops and artillery into the Frith of Forth, to cruize on the coast of Scotland, that the Scots being employed to prevent their landing, might not march an army into England, while he remained at London with his nobility; rightly judging that a war of so much risk was better conducted by prudence than force; and knowing likewise that the majority of England were inclined to Edward, eager for a revolution, and ready to rise on the least encouragement. To bring this war to an issue, after both nations had had repeated trials of their strength both by sea and land, arbitrators were chosen on both sides for the reparation of injuries, and to agree on terms of peace. On our side William was the principal. They met at Melros, and after various debates and propositions, when the treaty was on the point of being broken off, it was agreed to refer it to him. By his interposition peace was agreed to on certain conditions †. By his advice James first restrained

\* Perkin Warbeck, who assumed the title of Edward VI.

† This seems to be the peace negotiated by the Spanish ambassador D'Ayala with the Scots, at the little town of Aton in Scotland. Rapin VI.



restrained the disturbances of the islanders and highlanders, who without the interference of the royal authority are always quarrelling among themselves. He next set an example of reformation in the manners of the people: he built the magnificent palaces of Stirling, Edinburgh, and Falkland, and furnished them in the richest manner \*. The king's example was followed by his subjects of all ranks: the lower classes were protected from the oppressions of the nobles, and the nobility by the royal clemency and liberality, or by fear of punishment and authority, kept in peace. This general tranquillity and happy change was in great measure owing to our prelate, whose grand object was the good of his country, for which he shunned neither danger by sea or land, nor spared his own delicate health; and such was his influence with the king, that no transaction with his subjects or foreign powers, no treaty with other princes, no peace was concluded with other powers or states, no act, no design, was undertaken or concluded without his concurrence. Nor was he less esteemed by the people or the nobility. Such was the effect of his universal good character.

When tranquillity was thus restored, he set himself to adorn his country. In order to improve and embellish the northern parts of Scotland, he founded an University at Aberdeen, for professors in every branch of literature. Such foundations had already been established in the other two divisions of the kingdom; one at Glasgow by bishop William Dursdeer †; another, eminent for learning and science, at St. Andrews, at the expence of Henry Wardlaw, bishop of that see. In these we have seen produced men of the first eminence and learning: Robert

VI. 407. But Buchanan XIII. 20. says it was settled by Fox bishop of Durham, with king James, at Melros, 1500.

\* The king having drained his coffers by building palaces, monasteries, and ships, the bishop is said, in order to replenish them, to have revived the odious obsolete law, whereby the king or any other lord to whom the wardship of an heir in his minority devolved, was authorised to take all the rents and profits of the estate till he came of age; and if the proprietor sold above half his estate without the consent of his lord, the whole was alienated to the lord. Buchanan XIII. 22.

† William Turnbull, 1452.

Keith \*, John Leyston, Hugh Spence, Andrew Russel, Thomas Ramsay, Alan Meldrum †, a distinguished professor of divinity, William Gundy, John of Annandale ‡, persons of approved learning, who, notwithstanding the modest opinion they entertained of their own abilities, have hitherto held the pre-eminence in divinity, law, or philosophy, some seculars, others of the orders of Austin, Benedict, Francis, or Dominic. From this school, in its earliest foundation, proceeded many persons eminent for learning, which, and the excellent character they bore, were a singular ornament to the church of Scotland. In this University are three colleges. The first called the School ||, situated in the pleasantest part of the city, eminent for the many worthy scholars which it has produced. The second embellished with the venerable church of St. Saviour, and spacious handsome buildings for students, founded and amply endowed for students and professors by James Kennedy bishop of St. Andrew's, a great benefactor to literature and its professors; and enriched with a great collection of sacred utensils in gold and silver, among which is a crucifix two cubits high; not to mention the sacerdotal vestments of gold and silver tissue, and other valuable materials, the melodious bells, and the rich hangings for the church and public buildings, on all which the founder spared no expence suitable to his rank and noble spirit. A third college has been added by John Hepburne, now living, prior of the famous abbey of St. Andrew, already abounding with professors and students in various branches. After furnishing his abbey with a variety of religious eminent for music, in which they always excelled, and adding many costly new buildings both in the church and abbey: for the promotion of learning, this worthy man founded a college, dedicated to

\* Son of the earl Marshall, and abbot of Deer. He died 1531. Mackenzie II. 418.

† Or David Meldrum, canon of Dunkeld, official to bishop Lauder, whose life he wrote, and several other things on canon law. Ib.

‡ Or Anand, professor of philosophy at St. Andrews, educated at Paris, wrote on Aristotle's Ethics, &c. Ib. 419.

|| Pedagogium: succeeded by St. Mary's college, 1553.

St. Leonard, with a suitable endowment for masters and scholars. Some of these beautiful buildings are completed, others just begun. This college owes its rise for learning to John of Annandale before mentioned.

To return to the founder of our college. William Elphinstone was pleased to fix upon me to lay the foundation of it, and to be first professor of the liberal arts there, notwithstanding my incapacity for so great a charge, and by the most advantageous offers and promises invited me over from Montague college in Paris, where I was then reading lectures in philosophy, where John Standone, that excellent and worthy man, was their principal, and many accomplished scholars flourished, among whom were Petrus Syrus in divinity, Peter Roland my preceptor in logic, John Gasser, whose learned Commentaries on the Decrees of the Fathers are extant, Erasmus of Rotterdam, the ornament and glory of our time and of Europe. Among my countrymen who studied there, no small praise is due to Patric Panter \*, afterwards privy counsellor and secretary to James IV.; Walter Ogilvy †, whose eloquence is so admired; George Dundas, that excellent Greek and Latin scholar, master of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem in Scotland ‡; and John Major §, that learned divine, whose writings have so illustrated the Christian religion. These eminent scholars I shall ever respect; and lament my own loss in leaving them and the University of Paris, when I had imbibed but the first rudiments of learning, on the invitation of bishop William, to undertake the instruction of youth according to my best ability. I met with a very kind reception from the canons, those

\* He was tutor to James IVth's natural son Alexander Stuart (afterward archbishop of St. Andrew's), and wrote some political Observations. Dempster. Mackenzie II. 376.

† He wrote certain treatises on Rhetoric. Ib.

‡ He wrote the History of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, in two books. Ib.

§ He was born at Berwick, studied at Oxford, and the Sorbonne; wrote a Commentary on the Sentences, and a History of Great Britain; professed divinity in the University of Glasgow and St. Andrew's, being principal of St. Saviour's college in the latter, where he died, 1540. Mackenzie, and his life prefixed to his history; Edinb. 1740. 4to.



excellent scholars David Guthrie \*, professor of civil and canon law; James Ogilvy †, doctor in divinity, formerly for his known learning and virtue appointed archbishop of St. Andrew's in the council of Basil. These by their noble birth and uncommon talents attracted universal admiration for their eloquence in professing, preaching, and pleading; in explaining scripture, and giving lectures in law. Thomas Strachan, Alexander Vaux; the former principal of the school at Aberdeen, and both well versed in canon law; James Brown, dean of Aberdeen, a learned scripturist ‡; and many more adepts in learning, humane and divine. When I was settled at Aberdeen I chose William Hay, my fellow student in philosophy at Paris, for associate in my labours, as we were both natives of Angus, both school fellows at Dundee, and both studied under the same masters at Paris, and had contracted a mutual uninterrupted kindness for each other, which I trust will continue through life. His regard for me led him to settle with me at Aberdeen; and the pleasure he takes in his task of instructing youth makes him an inseparable companion. By diligent application Aberdeen in a short time produced many eminent scholars in divinity, law, and philosophy. Of whom the first was Alexander Hay, that active genius, now canon of Aberdeen, who instructed others, and was the first master of the school. James Ogilvie, of a noble and wealthy family, professor of civil law, successor of bishop Elphinston in the see, which he resigned at the persuasion of his friends, on a dispute among the principal men of the kingdom ||, and held the rectory of Kynkeld and the abbacy of Dryburgh *in commendam*. He was sent on several embassies from the king and government of Scotland to various princes, realms and states, by which he acquired great reputation. Henry Spital, a person of no common proficiency, who assisted me in qualifying

\* Dempster says he left excellent lectures on law behind him.

† Dempster does not mention him, Strachan, or Vaux.

‡ Author of a comment on the Scripture. Dempster.

|| The earl of Huntly insisting that the canons should choose his cousin Alexander Gordon bishop.

youth in philosophy previous to higher studies, a relation of our bishop, and on that account no less esteemed by me \*. Arthur Boece, my kinsman †, doctor in canon and licentiate in civil law; a person of great learning, in which he is making daily progress with unremitting application, and possessed of a force and weight of eloquence. Alexander Galloway ‡, the present learned rector of Kynkeld, who some years before our bishop's death was so great a favourite with him, that none of his concerns of moment were transacted without him; John Lyndsay and Alexander Laurence, distinguished lawyers, of whom the former was cut off in the midst of his expectations; and the latter has lately taken on him the order of Friars Preachers. David Menzies, a celebrated preacher ||. John Gryson §, Robert Lisle, and Alexander Courtney, learned and pious divines among the Friars Preachers. John Adam, professor of divinity, of equal learning and piety, first master in that science at Aberdeen, now principal of the Friars Preachers in Scotland, who has dared every hazard in support of religion, and increased the number of learned, pious, and active preachers of that order among us, to which the authority of the Bishop, exerted both at home and abroad, contributed not a little. I mention these as the principal scholars produced in the University of Aberdeen.

To return. These beginnings of the University were so flattering to William, that in order to establish it on more firm foundations, he erected a college, which for the beauty and extent of its buildings cannot be sufficiently celebrated. In it is a church of hewn polished hewn stone, with windows, ceilings, seats for the priests, and benches for the boys, in a most magnificent style; marble altars and images of the saints; pictures, statues,

\* He wrote an easy introduction to Aristotle's philosophy. Dempster.

† Brother. Mackenzie. Dempster says he wrote on canon law.

‡ He wrote an account of the Western isles, the clag geese, and the trees on which they grew. Mackenzie.

|| Dempster celebrates his sermons.

§ Thirty years provincial of his order, concerning which he wrote two books.

painting, and gilding, brazen chairs, hangings, and carpets. The furniture for sacred occasions is of gold tissue, 15 crosses, and chesubles; 28 mantles of coarse cloth all embroidered at the sides with the figures of saints in gold and purple, and other colours; seven of fine linen adorned with palm branches, and the borders embroidered with stars of gold: twenty of linen with palm branches and waves, for the boys. Besides these, many others of linen and scarlet for daily use: a crucifix, two candlesticks, two censers, an incense box, six phials, eight chalices, a textuary, two pixes in which to expose the host, a third two cubits high of most curious workmanship, a bason, a vessel for the font, a holy water pot with a sprinkler, all of gold and silver; several altar cloths of the finest linen, embroidered with gold and flowers of various colours. A chest of cypress wood elegantly set with pearls and jewels, in which the reliques of the saints are lodged in gold and silver. The steeple is of great height, surrounded by stone work arched in form of an imperial crown over the leaded roof, and containing thirteen bells of most melodious sound. All these were the gift of our bishop. And that religion and learning might be equally attended to, eight priests were appointed for daily service, and seven boys of the second form; four doctors professors of the higher sciences, the first in divinity, to whom the founder ordered all the rest should be subject; the second in canon law, the third in civil law, the fourth in physic; ten batchelors to attend the lectures of the professor, and instruct others; of these the chief is subprincipal of the college; 14 students in philosophy, and a learned professor of humanity to instruct youth in grammar, previous to their studying philosophy. This department is filled by John Vaux, who was educated in this University, a learned elegant scholar, and of intense application. All these are by the founder's appointment to attend the public religious service at the intervals of their literary labours. Houses were purchased for the professors of canon and civil law, physic, and grammar, distinct from the college; but William did not live to finish



them. He covered the college, church, and towers, and almost all the buildings with lead. The endowment of the whole arises from lands, manors, and excellent revenues, purchased by the founder at a great expence. But all these works and engagements did not fatigue him, nor the daily employments, controversies, decisions, and consultations which he assisted at for the public good. His attention was every where. He adorned the original cathedral of Aberdeen as if he had been chosen of God for that purpose, with many gifts, copes of white linen embroidered with gold, two mitres for the bishop to officiate in, one embroidered with gold, another wrought with palm branches of white linen set with pearls and precious stones, and to a third, which had been for many years esteemed of great value for workmanship and materials, he added many precious stones of various sorts set in gold and silver. He finished the great tower which Henry \* left incomplete, and covered both it and the church with lead. In this tower are three bells of 12000lb. weight procured at his expence. Another work no less considerable which he set about, was the choir of the cathedral of Aberdeen. It had been built in a stile unworthy such a church. William began to rebuild it on a plan corresponding with the rest of the building; but lest he should die before it was compleated, he would not take down the old choir till every thing was in readiness to begin the new one, so that a considerable part was finished before his death.

Edward † bishop of Orkney, a patron of letters and learned men, and particularly of the students here, happening to be about that time at Aberdeen, dedicated the college church. Our prelate lastly undertook to build a bridge over the river Dee, and made the necessary preparations for this pious and public work. He collected the Histories of Scotland, concerning the antiquity of the nation, particularly from the western islands, where the sepulchres of our kings and the ancient monuments of the

\* Henry Leighton, bishop of Aberdeen.

† Edward Stewart, a person of illustrious birth, of whom Boethius gives a notable character. Keith.

nation are preserved, and formed his materials into one volume. The greatest part of the Scotch written records had been destroyed by the English in their ravages during our civil broils. I have made great use of the bishop's writings respecting this subject in my history; and whoever has read them will see we either wanted historians, or that the few we had were extremely careless, and the best of them had formed no collection of the acts of our saints to whom our parish churches are dedicated. These memorials had also been burnt by the English, who substituted to them their own rituals.

Besides these civil and religious works, William adorned and rendered illustrious his own family, enriching them with estates, or advancing them in the church, and employing others of them whose abilities qualified them for it in public or private offices to their no small emolument; always recommending them to make a discreet use of their good fortune, which might change on his death. He was an especial benefactor to the Friars Preachers, Minors, and Carmelites. These his good works deserve to be had in everlasting remembrance. Amidst all his cares in earlier or later life, religion and learning were never absent from his thoughts. The leisure of old age he devoted to the study of the scriptures, and his solitude was a source of virtuous improvement. His table was splendid; he seldom slept without the company of many of the nobility, and in the midst of dainties was himself most abstemious; his countenance was chearful, his conversation pleasing, and he was particularly fond of the company of learned men, of music, and sprightly repartee. He had such an active and vigorous mind, that he was never at a loss in public or private business; alike qualified for civil or religious matters: the greatest lawyer, the ablest statesman, the most accomplished orator of his time, and the truest friend to the tranquillity, peace, and glory of his country. His constitution as hardy and vigorous as his mind, unbroken by any labor, exercise, or duty, whether public or private. Age itself, the common and inevitable disease of man, though it weakened did not break his spirit, and at the age of eighty-three he transacted the most

weighty business of the nation with superior acuteness, his capacity and faculties unimpaired, his memory always strong. His old age was pleasing and respectable, without moroseness, anxiety, peevishness, or melancholy, or the least effect on his excellent temper. Nor before his last illness did he feel any thing that could be ascribed to age.

About this time pope Julius II. by his legate declared James IV. protector of the Christian religion, and sent him a purple hat embroidered with flowers of gold, a gold-hilted sword in a golden scabbard set with jewels, complimenting him on the tranquillity which he enjoyed amidst the wars and commotions in which other Christian princes were involved. Louis of France had made himself master of several cities in Italy by force or voluntary surrender, and the princes of Italy were urging Henry VIII. of England, an enterprising young prince, to attack France under pretence of undertaking the defence of the church of Rome. War was no sooner proclaimed between France and England than Louis sent ambassadors to James to claim his aid against Henry, who threatened to invade his dominions. James received them favourably, and while in council some \* proposed to send immediately to Henry to insist on his withdrawing his troops from France, or threaten him with a declaration of war, William declared himself of the party who from past experience preferred peace to the horrors of war, and were for sending a more moderate proposal to dissuade Henry if possible from his attended attack on their ancient ally, and wait for his answer. This opinion was received with most tumultuous opposition, and the proposer of it grossly insulted. The contrary was carried into execution, and war declared England. What followed is well known. When William heard of our fatal defeat, he was seized with the disorder which brought him to his end. He was never after

\* This party consisted principally of the clergy, who feared, if James and Henry continued on good terms, the former might be induced to follow the latter's example in renouncing the papal power, and therefore they made him liberal offers of money to carry on the war. Robert-son I. 21.



seen to smile, or to be affected by any lively conversation. A council of the nobility was soon after convened at Perth, to consider on the state of the nation, at which he assisted, and was declared archbishop of St. Andrews' by the authority of the canons and the great men of the nation; but he stedfastly refused this dignity, and contented himself with his see of Aberdeen. For notwithstanding he had executed such magnificent works as were the wonder of all who knew them, he never held any abbey or church preferment, as many more do, *in commendam*. He retired to Aberdeen, to devote the remainder of his life in finishing his church and bridge. He wished to end his days in the tranquillity to which his labours entitled him in Aberdeen, where he had first settled. But he was recalled to government to compose the differences between the nobility, which his interposition alone could do. As he was now ill, his friends dissuaded him from going; but he answered, that he was not born for himself but for his country, that he owed more to the state than to his own health, and that neither his health nor any one's persuasions should prevent his going. Accordingly he set out indisposed, but the fever increasing when he was got half way, he stopped at Dumfermling. After he had lain ill there some days, he disposed of all his treasure and effects for the completing his college and Dee bridge, with legacies to his friends who were not in affluent circumstances. He had then 10000*l.* in gold and silver in his coffers, besides a considerable quantity of valuable furniture. From thence he went on to Edinburgh. Six days after he came there the fever increased so that he could find no rest. He bore the disorder all night without complaining; but the physicians being sent for, gave no hopes of recovery. The day before his death he went as usual into the chapel, where he discoursed copiously with great devotion and learning on the truth of Christianity, and the great rewards it proposes to its followers; but finding himself too weak to go on with the service, he ordered the holy body of Christ to be brought to him, and prostrating himself before it, spreading out his hands to Heaven, received it with the utmost reverence and tears. After he had finished his accustomed

tomed prayer before the crucifix, he was carried back to his chamber and put to bed, where he had a short sleep without pain. In the evening he supped with some of the nobility who came to see him, who from the gravity of his conversation and dejection of his countenance drew melancholy inferences. It was late before he retired to bed, when his fever and pain increased, notwithstanding he endeavoured to conceal it. In the morning, feeling an obstruction from phlegm, he called for his chamberlain as well as his voice permitted. His friends came into the room to comfort and encourage him with hopes of recovery; to whom, lifting up his eyes and seeing them in tears, he replied, "I thought you would give me better advice. I look for immortal health. I shall soon be discharged from sublunary cares. Be it your duty to help every one his neighbour. Certain death awaits me. As I have lived a Christian, so I shall die this day." Being asked where he chose to be buried, he answered, "I have long since given my soul to God.—Bury my body any where." Being further asked, if he had any message to his absent friends, he replied, "Give them my blessing. I am going to happiness." His soul being now on its departure, he continued calling on Jesus and his Mother till his lips were closed. He presently breathed out his divine spirit, not like a person in extremity, but as one going to rest: born for the glory of our age, the honour of Scotland, and the augmentation of religion; it being his constant endeavour, whether at home or abroad, that the church committed to his charge should be devoutly administered, and receive additional lustre from the lives of her ministers.

Such was the end of this prelate, after he had filled his see 30 years. His body being embalmed, was conveyed to Aberdeen with a pomp more mournful than magnificent, and deposited in his college before the high altar. On this occasion some prodigies happened. At Foveran, a village ten miles from Aberdeen, a child was born with two heads and bodies, but only two legs, and otherwise not deformed. Another child born at Aberdeen could not be brought to suck its mother, nor look at her with-

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out horrid squalling, while it took the breast of another woman quietly. The vanes on the towers of Aberdeen church all fell down or were broken off. At the time of his funeral his pastoral staff, which was of silver, and carried in the procession by one Alexander Laurence, was broken, by what accident is not known, and part of it fell into the grave where the body was going to be laid. A voice also, from whence is not known, said, "Thy mitre, William, should also be buried with thee."

Thus have I more briefly than the subject required, related the principal traits of William's public and private life; that as every man's reputation arises from the manner in which his life is spent, his actions may shew him worthy the highest praise. If that man deserves praise who performed many honourable actions, and in the most important concerns acquitted himself with the highest reputation, that man was William, who surpassed almost all his contemporaries in his application to the greatest affairs. If that man is to be extolled, who by building churches and other pious works restores the worship of God, and re-establishes the neglected service of religion, puts a check on sin, and establishes sound doctrine, and increases the number of learned persons for the service of God; that man was William, whose exertions in this kind we have shewn far surpassed the common run. Lastly, if we account any man worthy of immortality for his virtue, or any thing more excellent than virtue, whereby youth passes uncorrupted, manhood illustrious, age blameless, and every station of life with modesty, piety, integrity, and sanctity, and no practice unworthy the Christian religion; that man was William, who in every period of his life from the earliest to the latest devoted himself to virtue. An immodest word was to him immodesty itself. He avoided the company of women both in public and private. He delighted in the frequent commemoration of Christ's passion, on which he used to discourse learnedly and devoutly, and past the eve of Good Friday in hair-cloth and prayer without sleep. The sweet name of Jesus was never absent from his thoughts, and day and night, sleeping or waking, was always in his mouth. Such was his



his compassion to the poor and afflicted, that he heard and relieved their distresses with tears. When he saw persons penitent for their crimes, like a kind indulgent parent he would frequently exhort them in the mildest manner with tears to live carefully, and not admit temptation under the mask of pleasure; by which gentle treatment more were reclaimed, than by his authority.

His death occasioned public sorrow: the citizens and women of Aberdeen as well as the clergy mourned for him as a father, saying, the glory of Aberdeen was fallen with him, and all their happiness expired with his life. Such was their lamentation. For himself, we cannot doubt that in reward of all his extensive virtues, his most holy life, and devout affection towards God and man, he is gone to the Virgin, to whom he dedicated himself in his youth, whom he served all his life, adorned, if we may use the expression, with temples, and invoked in his last moments, to reign with Jesus Christ his Saviour, in eternal life. He died in the year of our Lord 1450, and second of king James V. The same year there broke out in Aberdeen a most violent plague, which continued two whole years, and carried off more people than had ever been remembered, and added to the other afflictions of the University.

Bishop Elphinston was succeeded by Alexander Gordon, chanter of Murray, a relation of the Earl of Huntly, by whose interest he was promoted to this see, in order to serve the Earl's cause in those troublesome times. John duke of Albany, regent of the kingdom, nominated James Ogilvy their ambassador in France, and pope Leo X. Robert Forman dean of Glasgow. Gordon's interest prevailed. But his ill health did not permit him to enjoy it above three years, at the end of which he died, and was buried before the high altar of his cathedral. During this interval nothing was done towards compleating William's designs for his college and bridge: but no sooner had Gavin Dunbar succeeded to the see but he turned his thoughts to the college, visited all the buildings, vessels, and ornaments, and last of all the bridge. In order to complete these, he ordered that Alexander Galloway, to whom

whom bishop William committed his fortune, as to a principal and faithful friend, and who had been an especial patron and benefactor to the college, should receive the several legacies for the college and bridge, and lay them out according to his intention. Gavin himself contributed handsomely to both, and at his own expence cield the cathedral. To him Boethius dedicated his History of the See, 1620.

## S E R I E S

O F

### BISHOPS of MORTLACK and ABERDEEN,

FROM

BOETHIUS, and KEITH's Catalogue of Scotch Bishops,  
p. 60—79, &c.

1. **B**EYN, 1015—1047\*, died Dec. 16, at Mortlich, buried at the postern door of his church, where his effigy in stone yet to be seen lies in the wall †.
2. Donort or Barnoc, died 1098, sat 42 years ‡, buried in the same place with Beyn.
3. Cormach, 39 years.
4. Nectan, 16 Alexander I. sat 14 years at Mortlack, transferred the see to Old Aberdeen, 1154, where he sat 17 years. Boethius makes him die 1152, 1 Malcolm III.
5. Edward, sat 11 years.
6. Galfrid, before 1159; not mentioned by Boethius.
7. Mathew Kininmund, 1172; 11 Malcolm III. died 1197.
8. John, prior of Kelfo, died 1206 or 1207.
9. Adam Karail, died 1237.
10. Mathew Scot, died before consecration.
11. Gilbert de Stirling, died 1238 or 1239.
12. Randolph or Rodulf, abbot of Arbroath, sat 8 years, died 1247, 30 Alexander II.

\* 1041 Boethius.

† Chanonry of Aberdeen MS.

‡ Boethius.

13. Peter de Ramsay, sat 10 years, died 1256, 5 Alex. III.
14. Richard de Potton \*, died 1267, 18 Alexander III. †
15. Hugh de Benham ‡, died 1279, at his palace at Loch Goul.
16. Henry Cheyn, 1281 ||, sat 48 years, died 1339 §. He added four prebends to the former twelve.
17. Alexander de Kinninmund, 1329, sat 11 years, built two episcopal palaces at Aberdeen and Fetterneir. In his second year, 1330, the English landed and burnt Aberdeen for six days. 12 David II.
18. William Deyn succeeded, 1341, sat 10 years, died 21 David II. 1351.
19. John Rait, 1351, sat 6 years, died 1355, buried in the choir of Aberdeen.
20. Alexander Kinninmund, 1356, sat 24 years. He pulled down the old church, and began the new, but finished only the bell tower, and was sent ambassador to France, died at Scone of the Strangury 1381, buried before the high altar.
21. Adam de Tinningham, dean of Aberdeen 1382, died 1390, 3 Rob. III.
22. Gilbert Greenlaw, 1390, chancellor of the kingdom 1394, which he resigned, and died 1424, and was buried in the choir of his cathedral.
23. Henry Leighton, translated from Murray 1424, was one of the commissioners for negotiating the ransom of James I. and brought him back from England. He filled this see 18 years, and died 1440, and was buried in St. John the Evangelist's chapel in the North transept of his cathedral, where his tomb still remains, and by his epitaph it appears that "*ecclesie fabricam a choro statione seorsum usque ad summitatem parietum plene astruxit.*"
24. Ingram Lindsay, 1440, died 1451. He roofed and paved his cathedral.
25. Thomas Spence, translated from Galloway 1459, keeper of the privy seal. He erected an hospital at Edin-

\* Pottok. Boethius.

† Boethius.

‡ Benheim. Boethius.

|| Keith.

§ Keith says 1333, yet dates his successor 1339.



burgh, and dying there, April 15, 1480, was buried in Trinity college church in that city.

26. Robert Blackader, prebendary of Glasgow, rector of Cardross, ambassador from James IV. to the Pope, translated to Glasgow.

27. William Elphinston, son of William Elphinston, younger son of the family of Elphinston, burgess of Glasgow, who after the death of his wife took orders, and was rector of Kirkchurch, and archdeacon of Tiviotdale, in which station he died, 1486. His son William was born at Glasgow 1437, was rector of St. Michael, Glasgow, and official of that diocese 1471, official of Lothian, sat in parliament 1478, archdeacon of Argyle 1479, bishop of Ross 1482-3, of Aberdeen 1483-4, lord chancellor 1487-8, lord privy-seal 1492, founded the university of Aberdeen 1494. On the death of James IV. the queen dowager intended to have set him at the head of the church, and wrote to the pope on the bishop of St. Andrew's being slain at Floddon. He died October 25, 1514, and was buried before the high altar of his cathedral. He was a diligent searcher into the antiquities of his nation, and wrote *A Chronicle of Scotland*, MS. in the Bodleian library, Fairfax 8; *Statutes of Councils*, and *Lives of Scottish Saints* \*. His arms, a chevron between three bears heads; motto, *Non confundar*, are on the schools at King's college, on the Trades' hospital, and on the cross. The same arms under a cap with the name of John Elphinston are on Cluny's gate.

28. Alexander Gordon, 1514, rector of Fetteresso, chantor of Murray, died June 29, 1518.

29. Gavin Dunbar, 1518, dean of Murray 1488, archdeacon of St. Andrew's 1503. He built the stately bridge of seven arches over the river Dee, and an hospital for 12 poor men with a preceptor 1531; over the gate of which is inscribed *Per executores*, and on the South side of the oratory, *Duodecim pauperibus domum hanc reverendus pater Gavinus Dunbar hujus almae sedis quondam pontifex adificare jussit anno a Christo nato 1532.*——He died March 9, 1532, and was buried in the cathedral, where at the

\* Tanner's Bib. Brit. in voc.

South end of the South transept called his aile, is his figure in pontificalibus, on a tomb under a round flowered arch, with his arms, 3 cushions pendant at the corners in a bordure fleure; and those of Scotland. His arms and initials, ob. 1532, are on the schools at king's college.

30. William Stewart, parson of Lochmaben, rector of Ayr, and prebendary of Glasgow. In 1537 dean of Glasgow, 1528 lord treasurer and provost of Lincluden. He died 1545. His arms, a fess debruised by a bend ingrailed W. S. ob. 1545: Motto, *Virescunt vulnere vires*, are on the schools as above.

31. William Gordon, of the house of Huntly, 1517, died 1577. His commission to Robert bishop of Orkney, &c. to act as vicar general for him during his residence in France, is printed in Keith's Catalogue, p. 173. with an inventory of the plate and vestments of his church delivered by him to his canons 1559.

#### After the REFORMATION.

32. David Cunningham, subdean of Glasgow, 1577, died 1603.

33. Peter Blackburn, rector of St. Nicholas, Aberdeen, died 1615.

34. Alexander Forbes, translated from Caithness, died 1618.

35. Patrick Forbes, died 1635, aged 71, buried in the South aile of his cathedral, where is a flat stone with his arms and epitaph. He used to visit his diocese in so private a manner, that he was scarce heard of till he came into the church, and according as he perceived the ministers behave he gave his instructions to them. He wrote a commentary upon the Revelations. A life of him was printed at Amsterdam, 1703.

36. Adam Ballenden, minister of Falkirk 1608, bishop of Dunblane 1615, translated hither 1635, deprived and excommunicated by the synod of Glasgow 1638, withdrew to England, and died there.

37. David Mitchel, minister in Edinburgh, deprived 1638, beneficed in England, prebendary of Westminster, doctor in divinity at Oxford 1661, consecrated bishop of Aberdeen 1662, died next year, and was buried in the cathedral.

38. Alexander Burnet, born 1619, chaplain to the great earl of Traquair, retired into England on the troubles, presented to the rectory of \_\_\_\_\_ in Kent, ejected

1650, consecrated 1662, translated to Glasgow 1663, to St. Andrew's 1679, where he died, and was buried 1684.

39. Patrick Scougal, parson of Salton in East Lothian, consecrated 1664, died February 16, 1682, aged 73.

40. George Halyburton, minister of Coupar in Angus, bishop of Brechin 1678, translated hither 1682, where he sat till the Revolution 1688, and died at his house at Denhead in Coupar parish, Sept. 29, 1715, aged 77.

## DESCRIPTION

OF

## OLD ABERDEEN.

**O**LD ABERDEEN \* is a long town, irregularly built, and since the Revolution and the loss of its bishoprick having been deserted by the many considerable families who had houses round the clofe, its principal dependance is on the college. This building consists of an oblong court, whose South side contains the hall and a ser of handsome fashioned apartments on piazzas built by Dr. Frazer. The East end is also apartments; the library and schools form the North side; and on the West was a grammar school, taken down, and rebuilt in another place.

\* To enter Old Aberdeen you cross the Don by a stupendous single Gothic arch about 70 feet from the surface of the water. Henry Le Chen, bishop here 1287—1329, for y<sup>e</sup> that Bruce's fortune turned, and himself was able to come back from England, applied all the revenues of his see for the time of his absence to build this bridge, which is 75 feet wide at the water, and 60 feet high to the top of the arch. (Keith's Cat. p. 65.) Elsewhere Keith says, it is 66 feet 10 inches wide, 34½ feet perpendicular height to the water, depth of water from the surface to the bottom under the arch at low water 19½ feet. (ib. p. 242.) The North bank of the river is formed of romantic perpendicular cliffs. From hence it is near a mile to the town, by a handsome modern house of George Middleton, rector or vicechancellor of King's College.



The hall is ornamented with some tolerable portraits. Over the chimney, bishops Elphinston and Dunbar, copied from originals in the principal's lodge. Bishops Forbes, Leslie, and Scougal; Dr. Henry Scougal, son of the bishop, professor of Divinity; Mr. Ogilvie of Inchmartin, who founded a scholarship. Col. Buchan. Professors Sandilands and Gordon. George Buchanan. The ten Sibyls, said to be likenesses of the most celebrated beauties of the time, by Jameson\*. Over the door a good portrait of Dr. Frazer, librarian to Queen Anne. Queen Mary, 1684. The library is furnished with variety of good books, and has a fund for augmenting it. In it is an ancient plan of Aberdeen by James Gordon, and a silver penny of one of the Scottish kings found here; several missals, ancient and foreign arms, and sundry natural curiosities. The schools under the library are for the Greek, mathematics, morality, philosophy, and history. On the front without the windows are these coats:

A chevron between 3 bears heads under a mitre W. E. ob. 1514.

*Non confundar.*

A fess debruised by a bend ingrailed mitred W. S. ob. 1545.

*Virescunt vulnere vires.*

A saltire and chief, H. B. ob. 1536.

A lion rampant, R. M. dec. Abd. 1579.

Three lions heads in a border cheque, 1623.

*Fortior quo mitior.*

Crest, a demi lion rampant.

James Frazer, 1724, his arms and motto *Je suis pret.*

At the South end of this side is a tower for an observatory, built 1658†, with the lodgings under it.

To this college belong a principal, subprincipal, who is also one of the regents or professors of philosophy, and six other professors of divinity, civil law, medicine, humanity, Greek, Oriental languages, and mathematicks, and a doctor

\* Mr. Pennant thinks they are not in his style.

† By the Contributions of General Monk and his officers quartered at Aberdeen. Pennant.

of divinity; the bishop was perpetual chancellor, and the officia or commissary of Aberdeen vicechancellor. After the abolition of episcopacy these offices fell into lay hands. Inferior officers are the college servants, and the sacrist and porter. All the students live in apartments within the college, and are under strict regulations, being obliged to be at home by nine, and to put out all lights by eleven.

The college church adjacent has been a beautiful building. The West end is neglected and disused. Before the high altar was the tomb of bishop Elphinston the founder, lately stripped of its canopy and ornaments, for fear of accidents, and reduced to a plain blue marble slab. The steeple is surrounded by a kind of lantern supported by four arches, and on the top a crown. Some coats of arms almost defaced appear in part on the sides of the great West window, which has rich tracery.

At the head of the town stands St. Machar's church, the ancient cathedral, now reduced to a nave (serving for a parish church), and the shells of two transepts. Its lofty tower in the centre, whose spire was a sea mark, and contained 14 large tuneable bells, by its fall crushed all the Eastern part of the church, which was circular, and the site is at present walled off. The West front is adorned with two towers and spires of a singular style. The pillars of the great tower which remain shew flowered capitals. The roof of the nave is of oak in square pannels, painted with the arms of those princes and nobles who contributed to its erection. Among those at the West end the following were copied as faithfully as their height would permit.

*Nova Aberdomia.*

G. in a bordure Arg. an open book A.

*Abbas de Dunessair.*

A lily.

*Vetus Aberdomia.*

G. on a chevron A. 2 lions passant, guardant.

*Prioris Sanctandree.*

*Dulis Gl.*

*Bocknasse comitis.*

Paly of 6 O. and G.

*Marischalli co.*

G. an eagle displayed O. *Sodorenfis ep.*

*Ducis Borbonie.**Regis Polonie.**Orchadum ep.**Eirolie co.***G.** 3 roses or cinquefoils **A.** *Lefmoren. ep.*

This cieling was the work of James Winter of Angus, at the expence of bishop Dunbar. (See hereafter.)

On the steeple wall within a fess cheque debruised by a bend engrailed. **Q.** bishop *W. Stewart* as before.

Bishop Stewart built the consistory house adjoining to the West end on the North. In it under a round arch lies a figure in a gown and hood, a lion at his feet; over him an inscription in black letter so overgrown with moss, that one can only read,

*Hic jacet honor vir mg Malsrodus qui decessit 22 Aug. capitalis die iudii*  
*cujus die propinquetur deus. Amen.*

At the bottom of the South aisle called St. Machar's, then bishop Cheyn's, and now bishop Scougal's aisle, is a monument and bust of bishop Scougal, 1682.

The nave rests on seven pointed arches on a side with round pillars. This was begun by bishop Alexander Kinmund, second of the name, 1357, having been burnt with great part of the town by the English 1333. At his death, 1370, the walls were got only six cubits high. The South door having an excellent porch is called the *Marriage door*. Over it under a mitre is . . . . quartering a spread eagle. The West front and towers begun by bishop Leighton were finished by bishop Dunbar: the great tower and steeple begun also by bishop Leighton were finished by bishop Elphinston. The North transept or St. John's aisle was built by bishop Leighton, who is buried at the North end of it. His effigy, in pontificalibus, on an altar tomb with a canopy, under which is this inscription in black letter.

*Hic jacet bone memorie Henricus de Lichtoun utriusq; juris doctor qui ad eccleie Moravien. regimen olim esset assumptus, ubi septennio presuit, demum ad istam translatum fuit, in qua 18 annos rexit, praesentisq. ecclesie fabricam a choro statione sedis usq; ad summam parietum plene astruxit A. D. MCCCCXL.*



The bishop seems to have died before the laying on of the roof, which was blown in by a violent storm. The Marquis of Huntly bought this aisle for a burying place, 1680.

The South transept was built by bishop Dunbar, and is called his aisle. His figure, *in pontificalibus*, lies on an altar tomb, under a round flowered arch, at whose base are his arms; 3 cushions pendant at the corners in a bordure, and those of Scotland. All that remains of his epitaph is the first word *Sub*. His body lies in a vault below. By him lies a blue stone for bishop Forbes, 1685, with his arms. The door into this aisle from the church yard is still remaining. In the same transept under another round arch of oak branches is another altar tomb with a bishop *in pontificalibus*, headless, a lion at his feet, and under his head a pointed helmet for a cushion; arms, a lion rampant *queue fourche* debruised by a bend charged with three escallops. The East end and choir were begun to be rebuilt by bishop Elphinston, but left unfinished at his death; the clergy of this church undertook to complete his design in a magnificent manner, and brought out the high altar, and placed it in bishop Dunbar's aisle; but the Reformation coming on put a stop to the plan. In this church, besides the bishops abovementioned, were buried bishops Rait 1355, and Lindsay 1458, in the choir, and in the yard bishop Mitchell, 1662.

The bishop's palace stood at the East end of the cathedral communicating with the chancel, but only the site and fosses remain. The deanry with its revenue is appropriated to the minister of St. Machar, and has the arms of Scotland over the gate. The houses of the other prebends were mostly taken down about 1725, and little remains except the chapel in the prebendary of Kincardin's house, in which is or was on the stair *John Elphinston's* name. These houses were mostly on the West and North side of the chancel, as on the East were houses of the principal nobility, particularly the duke of Gordon, all within the close, which is entered by a gate called Cluny's gate, over which was a figure of the Virgin, the arms of Scotland, of Aberdeen (a pot of lilies), and on the

the inner face the arms of Scotland and Gordon. On it is this inscription; M. Johannis Elph. . . : under a cap a chevron between three bears heads muzzled.

*Dominus Alex. Gordon a Cluny miles me edificari fecit,  
A. D. 1623, florente Patricio Forbesio Aberd. epo.*

Among the ruins of houses within this gate is a door over which were carved two rude busts supereribed in capitals :

**AD EDEX VENIUS PETRUS \***; a shield with a cross.  
**ANADIMUS BARBARUS**;

The Trades hospital and Trinity church were built on the site of the convent of Mathurines †. On the former is the date 1711. Arms of Scotland supported by a lion and unicorn, and the arms of Elphinston.

On the top of a cross in the parting of the streets by the close, arms of Scotland, bishops Elphinston, Dunbar, and Stewart. At it is kept the six weeks market.

On a gate nearly fronting the college are bishop Elphinston's arms, and below them on a bend three stars.

Over a gate of an old house almost fronting the college, 3 cinquefoils in a border of 3 crowns and 3 cinquefoils alternately impaling 3 blackmoors heads. Crest, a crescent. Motto, *Crescat Deo promotor.*

The Dominicans had a house in Aberdeen founded by Alexander H†.

On the West side of the town is a modern free school.

On the sea coast a fort and remains of the castle destroyed by Cromwell.

This may mean Petrus Landi, who was Doge of Venice 1588-1594, and had war with the Turks.

† Keith's Cat. 242.

† Keith, 271.

**EPISTORY**

# HISTORICAL OF ABERDEEN.

A Description of the CHANONRY in OLD ABERDEEN: Together with many curious, entertaining, and pleasant Remarks on the said town, &c. for the years 1724 and 1725.

**T**HE chanonry, or chanry, contained within it the cathedral church, the bishop's palace, the prebends lodgings, their yards, gleibs, or little tails, the chaplain's court, or chambers; and an hospital for twelve poor men.

It had four ports, viz. 1. The South, commonly called Cluny's, yet remaining entire, with this inscription above it:

*Hac ne vade via, nisi dixeris Ave Maria;*

*Invenies veniam sic salutando Mariam.*

Pass not this way, unless you say, Hail Mary,

By such a salutation you'll obtain pardon.

Above it is likewise the effigies of the Blessed Virgin Mary; but it was broken down in the beginning of the Reformation, when the cathedral was ruined; as also, a pot with lillies, yet to be seen.

*Ab Adriano Papa primo potestas facta Eduardo episcopo Aberdonensi instituendi Collegium Canonicorum, Anno Dom.*

1157. 4 Id. Aug. Pope Adrian was the first that granted to Edward bishop of Aberdeen a power to institute a college of canons, August 4, 1157. This institution is lost.

In the reign of king Alexander II. anno 121, there was a *Studium generale in Collegio Canonicorum*, common school in the college of canons, where there were professors, and doctors of divinity, and of the canon and civil laws; and many learned men have flourished therein.

A second was at the parson of Kinkell's manse, commonly called Birsomore's Lodging, near Donidon, or Tilledron. A third at the bishop's palace. And a fourth at the chaplain's court, or chambers. It was built by  
William



William Stewart, bishop of Aberdeen, and chancellor of Scotland, as witness his name on it; and stands yet entire, having above it the effigies of the Blessed Virgin Mary, defaced.

This chanry had strong high walls and dykes (for defence in troublesome times), whereof some part yet stands.

Several years after it was built, the bishop of Aberdeen, in process of time, fenced out to people (to be inhabitants) both houses and land about this ancient city, which was first a village of four ploughs, and had a little kirk, where the cathedral now stands, called the kirk of Kirktown, dedicated to Saint Machar. But David I. or St. David, brought hither the bishop's see from Mortlack, anno 1154; as appears by the following charter:

**Charta primaria Ecclesie Cathedralis Aberdonensis, facta Nectano Episcopo Aberdonensi.** The chief Charter of the Cathedral Church of Aberdon, granted to Nectanus Bishop of Aber-

“David, Dei gratia, Rex Scotorum, omnibus probis hominibus totius terrarum suarum, Clericis & Laicis, Salutem; Sciatis presentes & futuri, me dedisse, concessisse, & hac presenti charta confirmasse Deo & Beatae Marie, Beato Machario, & Nectano Episcopo Aberdonensi, tam Villam de Vetere Aberdon; dimidiam aquam de Uorth, Sclattie, Goule, Mu-riecroft, Kimmundy, Mam-eulach, & ecclesiam de Kirk-toun; Seiram de Clatt; Seiram de Daviot, Tillieneston; Seiram de Raine, Seiram de Daviot, cum pertinentiis earundem, & ecclesiis; decimam

“David, by the grace of God, King of Scots; to all the honourable men in his haill dominions, the Clergy and Laity, sendeth greeting: Know all men, both present and to come, Me to have given, granted, and by this present Charter confirmed, to God and the Blessed Mary, St. Machar, and Nectanus, Bishop of Aberdeen, the haill village of Old Aberdon, half the water of Uorth, Sclattie, Goule, Mu-riecroft, Kimmundy, Ma-meulach, and the kirk of Kirktown; the parish of Clatt; the parish of Daviot Tillie-

mam canium navium, quæ  
veniunt apud Aberdon; de-  
cimam ammonæ in eodem  
loco; decimam meam de red-  
ditibus de Aberdeen; deci-  
mam Thanagior' reddituum,  
ac escheatar' mihi contingen-  
tium infra Vice-comitatus de  
Aberdeen & Banff, tenend.  
& habend. dicto Episcopo  
Nectano, & ejus successoribus,  
in puram eleemosynam  
ita libere sicut aliqua elee-  
mosyna in regno meo tene-  
tur; teste meipso apud Ear-  
far, Anno Regni mei deci-  
mo tertio, tricesimo mensis  
Junij."

Tillienestie; the Parish of  
Raine; the tithe of the ships  
called Snows, which arrive  
at Aberdeen; the tithe of  
victual there; my own tithe  
of the revenues of Aber-  
deen; the tithe of the Tha-  
nage-Revenues, and Escheats  
belonging to me, beyond \*  
the Sheriffdom of Aber-  
deen and Banff, having and  
holding to the said bishop  
Nectanus, and his successors,  
as a pure and free almsdeed,  
as free as any other of this  
kind is held to be done in  
my kingdom; as witness my  
hand at Earfar, the 13th  
year of my Reign, and 30th  
day of June."

A copy of the Charter and Ratification of Old Aberdeen  
and its privileges, granted in the Month of August,  
1498.

"James, by the Grace of God, King of Scots, to all  
our good subjects, as well civil as ecclesiastic, within the  
bounds of our Dominions, Salutation. Be it known that  
We, now having come to our ripe and perfect age of 25  
years, have reduced to our memory, after our general Re-  
vocation of all Donations given and granted by Us in our  
tender age; and that We have found, both We and our  
Council, by our ancient Registers and Records, evidently,  
that sometime our most Royal Predecessor, David, most glo-  
rious King of Scots, feued and erected the Vill of Aber-  
deen, with the bounds and pertinents, commonly called Old  
Aberdon, into an Episcopal Seat, and City for ever; with  
all rights and privileges belonging to a City; and we repute  
and declare the said Vill to have been so feued and erect-  
ed; and We we anew again, having come to our perfect

age, as is said before, do feu and erect the same, with the rights and liberties, and privileges belonging to a City and University, with as great freedom and liberty as any City or University within our kingdom is infest or possessed; and, for the more security and clear liberty of the aforesaid City and University, and also for the special devotion which We bear to the glorious Virgin Mary, Patron of the Cathedral Church of Aberdon, in praise and honour of her; and, for the singular favour and love We bear towards the Reverend Father in Christ William Elphinston, present Bishop and Prelate of the said Cathedral Church, our well-beloved Chancellor, Keeper of our Privy-Seal; and for his faithful and willing service freely undertaking great travel and expences at diverse times in our employments, and ambassages to the Kings and Kingdoms of France and England, to the Dukes of Burgundy and Austria, and other Potentates, and foreign Parts, and in our service within our Kingdom, for the common Wealth and Tranquillity thereof diverse ways by him accomplished; and also, for the unity, quiet, and necessary sustentation of the Reverend Father and his Successors, Chapter, Canons, Chaplains, and Substitutes of the aforesaid Cathedral Church, and University of Aberdeen, and their domestick servitors there residing; We have created, made, and feued now of new as before; and, by the tenor of this our present Charter, We create, make, and feu the aforesaid Vill of Aberdon, with the bounds and pertinents, into a City and University, and into a meer free Burgh of Barony for ever. We have granted likewise, and by these presents grant to those, who inhabit, or those who in time coming shall inhabit the same, full power and liberty of buying and selling within the same Burgh, Wines, Wax, Cloth, woolen and linen, broad and narrow, and other Merchandize; and of having and keeping Bakers, Brewers, and Butchers, as well of Fleshes as of Fishes; and other Craftsmen of Trades whatever manner of way belonging to the liberty of a Burgh of Barony. And also, We have granted, and do grant, that in said City, University, and Burgh of Barony, there be Baillies, serjeants, and other officers, necessary for the government of the same.

And



And We grant to the said Reverend Father, and his Successors Bishops of Aberdeen, full power and liberty of choosing, appointing, and ordaining yearly the said Provost and Baillies, Serjeants, and other Officers necessary; and in putting and removing the said persons to and from their respective offices, as they shall find expedient; and they shall have a Cross and Mercate-place at the same, and the Mercate-day every Munday; and public fairs every year for ever, viz. one on the Supper of our Lord before Pasch, commonly called Skeir-Thursdays Fair; another on the day of St. Luke the Evangelist, throughout the whole eight days; with all emoluments, liberties, and priviledges belonging, or which justly do belong, to Luke's Fair, and to a free Burgh of Barony, and to a City and University, all manner of way: as also, We have given and granted, and by this our present Charter We give and grant to the reverend Father, and his Successors, Chapters, Canons, Chaplains, and Substitutes of the Cathedral Church, City, and University aforesaid, now present, and to come, full priviledge, liberty, and power of buying all sorts of Victuals, Wines, or other Merchandize, brought within our Port of Aberdeen, or without the same, by any of our lieges whatsoever; or Strangers of other Kingdoms, resorting thither for our commodious utility; both for the House-Sustentation of themselves and Families; and of selling again the said victuals, Wines, or Merchandize; or, by and at our of trafficquing and the merchant, any manner of way; as it has been in times bygone inviolably observed, of holding and possessing the aforesaid Vill of Aberdeen; the said bounds and pertinents of a City and University, and as a mere and free Burgh of Barony, to the said Reverend Father, and his Successors, Chapter, Canons, Chaplains, Substitutes; and to such as do inhabit, or shall inhabit in time coming for ever, the aforesaid Priviledges, &c. Charter and Gifts; and all other Liberties and Profits, Commodities and Easements whatsoever, justly belonging thereunto, as well nominate as innominate, appertaining, or that may justly appertain, any manner of way, in time coming, to a City, University, and free Burgh of Barony; and as freely, quietly, and fully, wholly, honourably, well, and in peace, in all and through all,

as in any City, University, Burgh of Barony, within this Kingdom, in any time bygone has been feued or possessed, our aforesaid general Revocation no ways gainstanded, and without any Revocation, or Contradiction of Us, or our Successors whatsoever, to be made any manner of way in time coming, upon the premisses. In testimony whereof, We have commanded our great Seal to be appended to this our present Charter, before Witnesses; our most dear Brother James Archbishop of St. Andrew's, D. of Ross, &c. the Reverend Father in Christ Robert Archbishop of Glasgow, the aforesaid William Bishop of Aberdon, our beloved Cousin George Earl of Huntly, Lord Badenoch our Chancellor, Archibald Earl of Angus, Lord Douglas, Patrick Earl of Bothwell, Lord Hills, Alexander Lord Hume our Chamberlain, John Lord Drummond our Justice, the Venerable Father in Christ John Prior of St. Andrew's, George Abbot of Cambuskenneth, Sir Robert Lundie of Balgowney Knight our Treasurer, and our beloved Clerk Mr. Richard Mairhead Dean of Glasgow our Secretary, Robert Wallace Archdeacon of St. Andrew's, and Walter Drummond Dean of Dumblane, Clerks of our Rolls, Register and Council.— At Linlithgow, the 21st day of the month of August, the Year of God One Thousand Four Hundred and Ninety-Eight, and the Eleventh of our Reign.”

N. B. This Charter, translated from the original Latin Copy, was ratified in Parliament, Anno 1661.

The bishops of Aberdon, being superiors of the City of Old Aberdon, have the nomination of the provosts, bailies, serjeants, and other necessary officers of the said city, and did always (except when they were laid aside) chuse gentlemen of discretion and understanding.

The bishop's courts, viz. presbytery, synods, the courts of his vassals, and commissary-court, all which sat here, did much contribute to and advance the good of this place. In the said city there was an election every year of the magistrates and town council, consisting of nineteen persons of good reputation and knowledge; the treasurer, deacons, conveyer of trades, and town's officers.

It was called Aberdon, because situated near the river  
Don;

Don; several years before king David I. (who erected it into a Burgh of Barony, 1124; the old records being lost through the troubles of the times) brought the bishop's see to it. It is likewise called the city of Old Aberdon by king James IV. in his said charter; though James Skene, in his book of the Description of the City of Aberdeen, thinks that the old town should not be called a city, which is a reflection on the dignity of the place. He also saith in his said book, That Aberdeen was built anno 1333. But Hector Boeth, Boethius, or Boyes (descended from the Boeths of Panbride in Angus) whose authority is better, and more to be believed, in his history informs, That Aberdeen was burnt anno 1333, by the Englishmen for six days together, and that they came to Old Aberdeen, and burned also the prebend's lodgings and the bishop's palace at the same time. Spotswood says, that Nectanus, when king David brought hither the bishop's see, was the first bishop here, and sat 14 years at Mortlach, and seventeen at Aberdeen.

#### A list of the BISHOPS of Aberdeen.

King Malcolm II. in memory of the defeat he gave the Danes at Mortlach, founded there a bishop's see, anno 1010, and preferred one St. Bean to be the first bishop. 2. Donatius. 3. Cormachus. 4. Nicholas, who reigned seventeen years. King David I. translated the bishop's see from Mortlach to Old Aberdon, anno 1154. 5. Edward, called the Maiden, in king Malcom's time. 6. Matthew Kininmonth, who founded the church of St. Machar. 7. John, prior of Kello. 8. One Adam, in King William's time. 9. Mathew, chancellor, preferred by king Alexander. 10. Gilbert Stirling. 11. Rodulph, abbot of Aberbrothock. 12. Patrick Ramsay, in king Alexander III.'s time. 13. Richard Pottach, an Englishman. 14. Hugh Benham. 15. Henry Cheyne, nephew to lord Cumming. 16. Alexander Kininmonth, doctor of divinity, in Aberdeen. 17. William Deans, doctor of divinity, in whose time the town of Aberdeen was burnt by the English six days together. 18. John Reith, doctor of divinity, buried in the quire. 19. Nicholaus, in king



David Bruce's time. 20. Adam Cunningham. 21. Gilbert Greenlaw. 22. Henry Lichtoun, buried in St. John's isle, which he built, anno 1441. 23. Seven years after him Ingraham Lindsay, doctor of the canon laws. 24. Thomas Spence, bishop of Galloway. 25. Robert Blacater. 26. William Elphington. 27. Alexander Gordon. 28. Gavin Dunbar, died anno 1531. 29. William Stewart, son to the earl of Minto. 30. William Gordon, son to the earl of Huntly. 31. David Cunningham. 32. Patrick Blackburn, 1st Protestant bishop. 33. Alexander Forbes. 34. Patrick Forbes, laird of Corse. 35. Adam Ballantine, de-  
 pried by the Covenanters. 36. King Charles II. being re-  
 stored, caused consecrate David Mitchell bishop of Aber-  
 deen, 1662, who departed this life Jan. 1663, and was bu-  
 ried beside bishop Forbes of Corse, in Gavin Dunbar's isle.  
 37. Alexander Burnet, buried anno 1663. 38. Patrick Scougal. 39. George Haliburton, died anno 1715. Be-  
 fore the chanry was erected, the bishop of Aberdeen lived  
 in his lodging at Lochgoule, now called the Bishop's  
 Loch; for bishop Benham died in the said lodging: and  
 historians say, (*insidius occubuit*) he was worried; and  
 others affirm, that he died of the cattarrh. There is a  
 little piece of rising ground within Lochgoule, which was  
 surrounded with the water thereof, where the bishop had  
 his lodging, consisting of a large hall, which stood East  
 and West; a large office-house at the West, and another  
 at the East end of the said hall; and at a little distance,  
 upon the South side of the said hall, stood the bishop's  
 oratory, East and West. The *vestigia*, or remains, of all  
 which are yet to be seen, and the said Loch was compassed  
 about with a wood of trees. There was a draw-bridge for  
 passing to the bishop's lodging. Henry Pantoun of Hil-  
 ton, was the first that drained some of the water of this  
 Loch, by casting a great deep ditch on the West end, to  
 convey the water to his mill, which did him no service up-  
 on that account. But it is so drained, that in summer one  
 may easily go to the place where the bishop's lodging  
 stood; but in winter the water of Lochgoule surrounds  
 it. In the said Loch is abundance of pikes, and no other  
 fishes, because no other burn runs into it; but at some  
 some

some distance from it are other two; the one called the Corby, and the other the Lilly-Loch; in both of which are trouts and eels, because of a burn running to and from them.

### Of the BISHOP'S LOCH, and CUSTOMS of Old Aberdeen.

This loch at first is thought to have been a moss, and being cast for peats turned into a loch of water. Anno 1601, king James VI. as coming in place of the bishop's dean, &c. gave a charter under the great seal to Thomas Gairden of Blairtown, commissary-clerk of Aberdeen, of said loch, lying on the West territories of Aberdeen, commonly called of old the Dean's Loch, with the customs of the said town, for payment of 6s 8d. Scots of feu duty yearly, at Whitsuntide and Martinmas in winter, by equal portions. He was infest in this Loch and customs, Jan. 23, 1602, &c. Having obtained the said right and title, he became uneasy to the inhabitants of Old Aberdeen, and used much diligence against them thereanent. But, anno 1604, there was a submission drawn up betwixt them; and Sir Thomas Gordon of Cluny, being their provost, took burthen upon him for the inhabitants.

Anno 1605, in presence of the magistrates of said town, compeared Thomas Gairden, anent the felling of the loch and customs, and offered them by reason of the said submission, for 300 merks to the council and inhabitants; but they would not agree to the proposal. The court of Old Aberdeen, holden by Sir Alexander Gordon of Cluny, provost, and baillies, April 17, 1613; the said day it was ordained by them, with the counsel of the inhabitants, That the bishop's Loch and customs of Old Aberdeen should be bought from the said Thomas Gairden; and that all the said town, college bounds, and chanry, shall be stented for the sum of twelve score merks, to be paid to him within        days; but this overture took no effect. Anno 1615, November 27, Robert Gairden of Blairtown, eldest son to the aforesaid Thomas, procured from Patrick bishop of Aberdeen, a precept for infesting him in the said Loch and customs, he paying the aforesaid feu duty; and upon November 28, in the said year, was in-

feft therein, designed commissary-clerk of Aberdeen.  
 Anno 1616, Oct. 7. Robert Gairden of Blairtown did set  
 and affedate to the provost and baillies of the said town  
 the haill customs, weights, and measures, for the space of  
 three years next following the date of these presents, for  
 which the inhabitants were to pay a certain duty. The  
 said Sir Alexander Gordon of Cluny, when he lived in the  
 chanry, had a summer-house in the middle of the said  
 loch, and a pleasure boat upon it, for passing and re-pas-  
 sing to the said summer-house. Anno 1630, March 12,  
 James Cruickshank, merchant in Aberdeen, comprized the  
 said loch and customs from the said Robert Gairden, com-  
 missary of Elgin, and procured a charter from the said  
 bishop; was infest the 7th of April, and registered the  
 8th ditto, of the said year. Anno 1647, December 14,  
 as is narrated in the town's court-books, the said James  
 Cruickshank of Newhills, burges of Aberdeen, by his let-  
 ters of disposition, making mention, that Alexander Gor-  
 don of Birsomore, provost of Old Aberdeen, John Forbes  
 of Tweland, and Mr. John Lundie, humanist, and Tho-  
 mas Mercer, baillies, having paid to the said James Cruick-  
 shank the sum of 350 merks Scots, for themselves and in  
 name and behalf of the citizens of the said town; there-  
 fore the said James Cruickshank dispones to the said pro-  
 vost and baillies, council, and community of the said town  
 and their successors, heritably, the loch and customs of  
 Old Aberdeen, as firlots, pecks, and other measures what-  
 soever heritably pertaining to the said James Cruickshank,  
 with the haill brew-customs, which disposition contains a  
 precept of saline. And, seeing the said provost and bail-  
 lies were relieved of the aforesaid sum of 350 merks for the  
 said loch and customs; therefore, they dispone for them,  
 their heirs, executors, or assigns, to and in favours of the  
 city of Old Aberdeen, council, and community thereof,  
 the loch, and haill customs, firlots, pecks, and other mea-  
 sures, and brew-customs thereof, to remain heritably for-  
 ever with the said town; and this to be put in a box, two  
 keys delivered in custody to two heritors of the said town,  
 to be chosen by the council, also with all other securities  
 belonging to the said town, to be put into the said box,  
 and



and the common good to be employed for the benefit of the said city, by advice of the council; which disposition was subscribed by the said provost and baillies of Old Aberdeen, Jan. 6, 1655.

After that the said loch came into the magistrates and council's hands, they set the græs thereof yearly, for 10 merks Scots. Anno 1662, February 4, there was a meeting holden by the baillies, council, and hail community of Old Aberdeen; which day it was ordained, That any man who would take the loch, should have the sett of the same for the space of 10 years, and his entry to be presently at the taking thereof; and shall have a man-servant out of every house of the town, to work a day's work upon his own charges, and shall have liberty to stank or ditch it, for draining thereof, for which he shall pay yearly to the town of Old Aberdeen, the sum of 10l. Scots, the one-half at Whitsunday, and the other half before Michaelmas, and shall find two sufficient cautioners for paying the feu duty of the said loch. James Gordon of Seaton, being one of the baillies at that time, takes the said loch from the rest of the baillies and council, on the terms above-written.

He ditched it round about, and planted it with stanks, with a ditch through the middle of it, and so drained it. During the space of his tack he had plentiful crops of corn upon it, and when his tacks were run out, the town took it into their own hands, and roup'd it annually. Then, the ditch which was round it was filled up, and made corn-ground. Anno 1668, May 11, Patrick Scougal, bishop of Aberdeen, as superior of the loch and customs of Old Aberdeen, granted a charter in ample form to the magistrates, council, and community of Old Aberdeen, concerning the said loch and customs, they paying the said feu-duty yearly. They were infest June 12th, and registered June 22d, 1668. Anno 1723, it was roup'd at 49l. Scots yearly, which the tacksmen must pay yearly during his tack. And it is to be noted, that the loch paid yearly; and that for the space of nine years successively, before the tacksmen, viz. Colin Ritchie, roup'd for the said loch and customs. The said loch, abstracted from the customs, paid 60l. 12s. Scots, with a farthing of defalcation; and the said

said sum was punctually paid by Mr. William Chrystie, master of the said music-school of Old Aberdeen, for all the said nine years, as can be made appear by his receipts and discharges from the treasurer of the said town: as also, their respective accounts instruct.

### Of the CATHEDRAL.

Matthew Kininmonth, archdeacon of St. Andrews, a man famous for learning, and other excellent virtues, was elected bishop of Aberdeen, anno 1163, in whose time the cathedral began to be built unto the memory of St. Machar, to whom Malcolm IV. surnamed The Maiden, because never married, (who succeeded his grandfather, King David I. a good prince) granted the following charter, viz.

“ Milcolumbus, Dei gratia Rex Scotorum, probis hominibus totius terræ suæ, clericis & laicis, salutem; scient præsentēs & futuri, Me dedisse, hac charta mea confirmasse Deo & Beatæ Mariæ, Beato Machario, & Matheo, Episcopo Aberdonensi, totam Villam de Vetere Aberdon, cum Ecclesia de Kirktown, & pertinentijs; dimidiam aquam de Don, Sclattie, Goule, Muriecroft, Kinmundy, Mameulach, Tilliegrig; Sciram de Clatt, cum pertinentijs & ecclesiam; Sciram de Rayne, cum pertinentijs & ecclesiam; Sciram de Daviot, cum pertinentijs & ecclesiam; & ecclesiam de Fetterneer, cum terra ejusdem & pertinentijs; ecclesiam  
Beati

“ Malcolm, by the grace of God, King of Scots, to all honourable men in his haill dominions, the Clergy and Laity, sendeth greeting; know all men both present and to come, Me to have given, and by this my Charter confirmed to God, and the Blessed Mary, St. Machar, and Matthew, Bishop of Aberdeen, the haill vill of Old Aberdeen, with the kirk of Kirktown, and the pertinents; half the Water of Don, Sclattie, Goule, Muriecroft, Kinmundy, Mameulach, Tilliegreig; the Parish of Clatt, and a kirk with the pertinents; the Parish of Raine, and a kirk with the pertinents; the Parish of Daviot, and a kirk with the pertinents; and the  
kirk

Beati Nicolai de Aberdeen cum pertinentijs; terras de Ellon, cum pertinentijs; ecclesiam de Auchterless, cum terris & pertinentijs; ecclesiam de Oyne, cum terra & pertinentijs; ecclesiam de Invercruden, cum terra & pertinentijs; ecclesiam de Banchery-Devoneif, cum terra & pertinentijs; ecclesiam de Belhelvie, cum terra & pertinentijs; decimam canium navium, quæ veniunt apud Aberdon; decimam annonæ in eodem loco; decimam de redditibus meis, & omnium escheatarum me contingentium, inter duas aquas, quæ Dee & Spey dicuntur; decimam thanagiorum meorum & escheatarum me contingentium, infra Vice-comitatus de Aberdon & Banff, tenend. & habend. dicto Episcopo, Matheo, ejusque successoribus, in puram & liberam eleemosynam, sicut aliqua eleemosyna in Regno meo tenetur liberius, aut possidetur; teste meipso, & Eduardo Cancellario, et Joanne apud Striviling, vicesimo die Aug. Anno Regni mei undecimo."

kirk of Fetterneir, with its land and pertinents; the kirk of St. Nicholas of Aberdeen, with the pertinents; the lands of Ellon, with the pertinents; the kirk of Auchterless, with the lands and pertinents; the kirk of Oyne, with land and pertinents; the kirk of Invercruden, with the land and pertinents; the kirk of Banchory-Devenick, with the land and pertinents; the kirk of Belhelvie, with the land and pertinents; the tithe of the ships called Snows, which arrive at Aberdeen; the tithe of victual there; my own tithes of my revenues, and all the escheats belonging to me, betwixt the two Waters called Dee and Spey; the tithe of my thanagies, and escheats belonging to me, beyond \* the sheriffdoms of Aberdeen and Banff, having and holding to the said Bishop Matthew and his successors, for a pure and free alms-deed, as any such is held to be done in my kingdom; as witness my hand, and the hands of Edward, Chancellor, and John, at Striviling, the 20th day of August, and the 11th year of my reign."

\* Within.

Malcolm



Malcolm IV. granted him another of the Barony of Murchill, with common pasturage in the Forest of Aberdeen, as follows :

“ Milcolumbus, Dei gratia Rex Scotorum, omnibus probis hominibus totius terræ suæ, clericis & laicis, salutem ; sciant præsentēs & futuri, me dedisse, & hac charta mea confirmasse Deo & Beatæ Mariæ, Beato Machario, & Matheo, Episcopo de Aberdon, totam baroniam meam de Murchil, cum pertinentiis ; & pasturam in foresta mea de Aberdeen, ita ut liceat unam Forestarum de quatuor ibidem residentibus, eligere & habere, in puram & perpetuam baroniam ; faciendo inde mihi servitium, & juramentum fidelitatis, sicut alii barones regni mei faciunt ; salvis sibi dignitate episcopali, & libertate clericali ; & contra istas libertates nolo ipsum vel successores ejus in aliquo argueri. Teste meipso apud Banff, die decimo quinto Novembris, anno regni mei undecimo.”

“ Malcolm, by the grace of God, King of Scots, to all the honourable men in his haill dominions, clergy and laity, sendeth greeting ; know all men, both present and to come, Me to have given, and by this Charter confirmed to God and the Blessed Mary, St. Machar, and Matthew, Bishop of Aberdeen, my haill Barony of Murchill, with the pertinent ; and pasture in my Forest of Aberdeen, as he pleases, any one forest of the four, lying as above-mentioned, to chuse, or have for a perpetual Barony ; he always serving me, and making oath of fidelity, as other Barons of my kingdom do ; excepting to himself the dignity of a bishop, and the liberty belonging to the clergy ; but beyond these bounds, neither he nor his successors must by any means pass ; as witness my hand at Banff, the 15th day of November, and 11th year of my reign.”

King William, surnamed the Lion, succeeded his brother Malcolm IV. anno 1165, and confirms the aforesaid charters to Mathew Kininmonth, and grants him the land of Brass, now called Birse, with the forest thereof, by a large charter in Latin, the 5th year of his reign ; all which

which charters are in the chartulary of the king's college of Aberdeen.

Alexander Kininmonth, the first of that name, who became bishop of Aberdeen about anno 1329, built the bishop's lodging in the chanry, as also his summer-house at Fetterneir. In the said bishop's time, Aberdeen was burnt by the English six days together, anno 1333; and the bishop's, and canon's lodgings were all burnt at the same time, as saith Boetius. Alexander Kininmonth, second of that name, who became bishop of Aberdeen, anno 1357, caused demolish said old church, esteeming it not beautiful enough for a cathedral, and laid the foundation of another more magnificent, but died before the work was raised six cubits high, anno 1370. Henry Lichtoun, bishop of Murray, being translated to the bishoprick of Aberdeen, anno 1424, built St. John's isle upon the North-East end of the cathedral, anno 1430; laid the foundation of the great and two lesser steeples, and advanced the fabrick very much. The roof was laid on, of excellent red fir, curiously and strongly built; the church slated, and floor paved with free-stone, by bishop Lindsay, anno 1445. Bishop Spence, being translated from the bishoprick of Galloway to Aberdeen, one of an active spirit, repaired the bishop's lodging in the chanry, which lay waste and ruinous since the burning thereof by the English, as also the stalls in the chancel, with an excellent chair for the bishop's use, and advanced it with many brave ornaments, anno 1460. He glazed the church, and gave many donations to it. William Elphinston, who became bishop of Aberdeen, and thereafter chancellor of Scotland, perfected the great steeple on the East end of said church, which was a mark for sailors in those days, and furnished it with 14 tuneable and costly bells, three whereof were very great, anno 1489. They hung on great oak trees a little from the said steeple, which stood upon four arch pillars, pended above very high. There was a battaline round about said steeple, which was built four square, and four story high above said pend, for from it were 24 steps of a ladder to a little four cornered chamber; and above it a square tower, with a stang on the top of it five ells in length,

length, with a great globe of brass above the first cross of said stang; and above the second cross was a cock an ell in length of brass, and his breast of copper, which stang, globe, and cock Mr. David Corse, a presbyterian minister of this church, disposed of. In the said pend was an oval vacuity, through which came a rope from the bells, down to the church floor, wherewith the beadle rung one of the said bells to sermon, after the Reformation. From the founding of said great steeple by bishop Lichtoun, to the perfecting thereof by Bishop Elphinston, were 59 years. The said bishop Elphinston leaded the church, and got money from king James IV. to perform the same. After this he began to consider the condition of the quire, which king Robert Bruce ordered the bishop of Aberdeen to build, finish, and complete, it not being so great and so fair as became a cathedral. He began to build it, and prepared materials, but there was only a very small part thereof built when he died, anno 1514. The clergy in the chanry took the roof, slates, and some other materials of the said quire, to build and perfect it most magnificently, and brought the high altar out of it, and placed it in bishop Gavin Dunbar's isle; but delayed the building thereof so long, that the Reformation was beginning, which put a stop to their intentions, as some write. Gavin Dunbar, who became bishop of Aberdeen anno 1518, perfected the lesser steeples on the West end of the said church, and laid on a cake of lead upon the walls where he began to build, to distinguish his work from what was formerly built, which is yet to be seen above the battalines; the two lesser steeples have both cross-thanes of iron upon their tops, yet standing. He built also the South ile, anno 1522. From the founding of said steeples by bishop Lichtoun to the perfecting of them by bishop Gavin Dunbar were 92 years. The height of one of the Western steeples, from the paise to the top of the stang, are 37 yards two feet and seven inches; and the other is conform.

In like manner he ceiled the church with the finest oak, of such excellent work, that there is scarce any like it to be seen in this kingdom, which, as related by tradition, was

of



of expence eight pounds Scots money; a great sum in those days.

Hereon are painted the names of those persons who probably contributed and advanced something for the building of the fabrick of the church, with their designations and armorial coats. 1. The emperor, and foreign kings and princes. 2. The pope, and all the Scottish bishops. 3. The Scots king and his nobles, all in a strait line. And upon the border of the North side is painted a succession of the bishops of Aberdeen; and upon the South side Malcom II. who ordered the church of Mortlach to be founded and built, and made an episcopal see, with other Scottish kings; and St. David king of Scotland, who translated the bishop's see from Mortlach to Aberdeen. Bishop Gavin Dunbar was at all the pains and expences of said cieling. James Winter, an Angus man, was architect of the timber work and cieling of said church; which was well done, and may make his name famous to after-ages. William Stewart, who succeeded bishop Gavin Dunbar, and became bishop of Aberdeen about anno 1532, and thereafter Lord Chancellor of Scotland, built the Consistory-house in said church, as witness his name on the wall thereof, anno 1559, lately obliterated by the plaistering and washing of the walls of the church. This is now called the session-house, where the minister and elders keep their meeting anent church affairs, from which is an entry to a secret room under the North lesser steeple, called the charter-house, which contains the evidents, charters and records of the church and session. After the death of king James V. the English invaded Scotland, anno 1544; and the said bishop Stewart took away the ornaments and jewels of said church, and sent them by the bridge of Don to the country, in order to preserve them. But James Forbes of Corsendae, with his associates, met at said bridge, took them by force and violence, and would restore none of them till bishop Stewart paid him 600 merks; but the rest he never restored, but applied them to his own use, in value 700 merks; for which sacrilege he was excommunicated, and 'tis remarkable, that his family never prospered thereafter; witness the

F

chartulary

chartulary in the King's college. In the said church were 32 windows : the greatest above the West door; 18 storm ones ; of which those in the back of the church have been closed up since the Reformation. The South isle, or bishop Gavin Dunbar's, which he caused to be built, hath two large windows yet standing, and had another which is fallen; and hath a door to enter into it from the church-yard. He hath an excellent tomb upon the South end of said isle; his effigies without, at length, of marble, with a vault below well built, and paved with hewn stone, where he lies, and a large stone for covering said vault above. But the fanaticks have defaced the tomb, obliterated the inscription, and broken his effigies in pieces, together with a part of the stone that covered the vault. The masters of the college, anno 1725, caused workmen to take down the top of this isle, to help to build anew the South side of the college. St. John's isle, built by bishop Lichtoun, as is said, on the East end of said cathedral towards the North, had three windows, and 10 storm ones; and a door to enter into it from the church-yard. Both these isles had battalines, and buttrages round about them, with cross thanes of iron on the top of each of them. In said St. John's isle bishop Lichtoun hath a tomb in the North end, with his effigies cut out of stone, *ad longum*, yet to be seen, with the mitre on his head, and the pastoral staff in his hand; which was broken down by the fanaticks, about anno 1693. The inscription on his tomb :

“ Hic jacet bonæ memoriz, Henricus de Lichtoun, utriusq; Juris Doctor, qui Ecclesiæ Moraviens. Regimen olim esset assumptus, ubi septennis præfuit, deum ad istam translatus fuit, in qua 18 annos rexit, præsentisq; ecclesiæ fabricam a choro statione seorsum usque ad summitatem plene astruxit, anno Dom. millesimo

“ Here lies, of blessed memory, Henry of Lichtoun, Doctor of the Civil and Canon Laws, who having for some time taken upon him the government of the Church of Murray, where he presided over them for the space of 7 years, was at last translated to this Church, wherein he reigned 18 years. He laid the foundation

millesimo quadringentesimo foundation of the quire, and very much advanced the quadragesimo." and very much advanced the fabrick of said Church, anno 1440."

The said Marquess of Huntly, about anno 1630, bought St. John's isle from Dr. Alexander Scroggy, minister of St. Machar's church, and the session thereof, for a burial-place to his family, for which he paid them 300 merks; the annual rent whereof to be employed in helping the cathedral. As also, the said Marquiss obliged himself to pay all the burial-lairs that should be interred in said isle; which should be employed for upholding and maintaining said isle. All which is done by a charter, which the session hath in custody to this day; and upon this account it is now called the Gordon's isle. There was a dyke built six quarters high, to distinguish it from the church.

Anno 1719, November 26, at night, the top of this isle was thrown down by an extraordinary tempest of wind and rain, which broke the grave-stone of Sir Alexander Gordon of Clunie; and that which Baillie Gordon laid on his father Mr. William Gordon, late minister of Kintore, his mother Janet Keith, and his wife Mary Irvine; who was the first interred by the English service, anno 1713, near bishop Lichtoun's isle, either in St Machar's church-yard, or any other in the North of Scotland. In the West end of said church is an isle opposite to the consistory-door, of old called St. Machar's, thereafter bishop Cheyne's, and now bishop Scougal's isle, where his effigies stands cut out of stone, *ad longum*, with his armorial coat and motto, *Confido, sed caveo*; and also a large inscription in Latin, exactly as follows:

"Hic in Christo requiescit, R. Patricius, Episcopus Aberdonensis; D. Joannis Scougalli de eodem filius, vir omni elogio dignus, utpote pie pacificus, modeste prudens,

"Here lies, in hopes of a blessed Resurrection, the Reverend Father in God, Patrick bishop of Aberdeen, son to Mr. John Scougal of that ilk; a man worthy of all



prudens, eruditæ probitatis decus & exemplar, nec morose gravis, nec superbe doctus; egenis, dum viveret, præfens asylum; basilicam Sancti Macharij, bibliothecam Collegij Regij, necnon hospitium publicum Vet. Aberdoniæ, propensæ munificentæ, indicis haud spernendis ditavit. Ad Episcopale munus consecratus die Paschatis, Anno 1664. fatiscessit, Feb. 16, Anno Salutis 1682, Episcopatus 18, Ætatis vero suæ 75.

“ Hoc Monumentum, quale quale, piæ memoriæ charissimi parentis sacravit Mr. Jacobus Scougallus, Dioceseos Commissarius Aberdonensis, 1685.”

commendation, as being piously peaceable, modestly prudent, an honour and pattern of learned probity; not morosely grave nor proudly learned; to the poor, while he lived, a present help in time of need; he enriched the Cathedral of St. Machar, the Library of the King's College, and also the Hospital of Old Aberdeen, with considerable tokens of his great bounty. He was consecrated Bishop on Easter-day 1664. He died February 16, 1682, the 18th year of his bishoprick, and 75th of his age. Mr. James Scougal, Commissary of the Diocese of Aberdeen, consecrated this stately Tomb to the pious memory of his most dear Father, 1685.

In the face of the cathedral were ten pillars on the South side within the toofall; and as many on the North side thereof. This church hath also three doors; the West is the principal one, where the Popish clergy entered at the time of their processions, &c. the second is the South or marriage-door, having an excellent porch; and the third is the North door, &c.

The toofalls on the South and North sides of said church have buttrages; and so hath the said porch, yet to be seen. The great steeple had some windows; and the two lesser ones have battalines, slits, windows, and buttrages yet to be seen. The passage to the bells in the great steeple was from the South lesser steeple, by a battaline under the easing of the slates of said church; and there was another battaline under the easing of the slates of the toofall;

roofall; with doors in the lesser steeple to go to the great one, and bishop Gavin Dunbar's isle. In like manner there were two such battalines in the North side of said church, with doors in the North lesser steeple to go to St. John's or bishop Lichtoun's isle, which battalines were taken away since the Reformation, because the church could not be preserved from rain. This cathedral had an asylum, a girth or sanctuary, and girth-cross, which stood in the bishop's dove-coat green, as witness a chartulary in the King's college. These girths were first appointed in imitation of the cities of refuge under the law, to which the manslayer who had killed one unawares might flee for safety. Numb. xxxv. 15. Deut. iv. 41. and xix. 2. The first mention made of those girths is in the statutes of William the Lion king of Scotland; and they continued here in cathedrals till the beginning of the reformation of religion. If the manslayer came to the girth-cross, he could be no further pursued, but the clergy received him into the cathedral-church, where he was kept till the matter of the slaughter was tried, &c. King James III. makes an act in his third parliament anent the rectifying of girths; that, where the committer of slaughter on fore-thought felony flee to the girth, the sheriff require him on caution, and take trial by inquest, if the crime, committed by him on fore-thought felony (*tanquam insulciator per industriam*), then he was to be punished; if not, restored to the girth. King James V. makes an act in his fourth parliament, That all masters of girths make deputies under them, dwelling near the girths, who may be charged to deliver all committers of slaughter on fore-thought felony; and if those baillies being charged refuse to deliver, that they may be rigorously punished in their bodies and goods. This act was made, because the master's spiritual men were said to refuse to deliver transgressors this way: the committers of slaughter coming to girths and girth-crosses, and staying in cathedrals, in process of time the laws of Scotland came to be contemned, and the subjects trepanned, which occasioned the aforesaid rectification of all the girths and girth-crosses in this kingdom, pertaining to cathedrals. This church had also a large baptizary belonging to it,

and a large church-yard, the North-dyke whereof was placed at the foot of the brae, where St. John's Well is, the water of which was brought into the church at the North door, for baptisms, and cleansing the vessels of the temple. It had a great clock and sun-dial in the time of the Popish clergy. King James I. brought into Scotland the organs, but it seems this church had none. At the dedication thereof the text was Rev. xxi. 2. to the middle of the 25th verse.

### Of the BISHOP'S PALACE.

The said palace (which stood at the end of the cathedral and chancel) was a large court, having four towers, one in every corner of the close, and a great hall and chambers, where the bishop dwelt. On the South side of the close were an outer and an inner port; in the middle, a great deep well. He had also a passage by an iron gate, from the lodging into the chancel, and from that into the church, which was easy and convenient for him. This court had also a water-gate to go to the water of Don, and the ward, which was on the North side of his lodging, surrounded with a strong faill-dyke, in which is the hay-yard, yet to be seen, and some mark of the bow-buts, at the foot of the South brae of said ward. His garden was at the South-East side of his close, which yet remains entire, lying betwixt the court and the chaplain's chambers. In the middle, upon the West dyke, there was a summer-house, three stories high; so that upon the top of it one could see the town and all the fields about it. This garden hath high dykes; and in the North dyke were several slits, which perhaps were made to let the good air of the garden come into the toofalls, and several apartments of this lodging. The said court had a back-close, which contained the office-houses; and an entry from it to go into the bishop's green, which was surrounded with a dyke, on the North side whereof stood the bishop's dovecote; and in the end of it there was another gate, to go to the Seaton and bridge of Don.



# Of the PREBENDS and their MANSES.

The prebends or canon-regulars had large lodgings, yards, and gleibs, or little talls at the end of their yards. They were the bishop's chapter or council; he could do nothing without them; therefore they were obliged to live near him, that they might be ready on all occasions when he called for them to go about church affairs. They were parsons of churches in the country, and had curates under them, who performed divine service at their respective churches; and the prebends who were canon-regulars, preached in the temple or cathedral at the time of high festivals; and on week-days taught lessons of divinity, of the canon and civil laws, in the chanry, before the University was erected, as is said; and sometimes visited their churches in the country. Peter Ramsay, who became bishop of Aberdeen about anno 1246, having received orders from pope Innocent IV. concerning this church and the canons thereof, with consent of Richard then dean, and the chapter lawfully called, 14th of the kalends of May, anno 1256, which was sometime before his death, appointed 13 prebends in the chanry, the bishop being one himself, who was to preside over the rest.

1. The dean, who was rector of the church of Kirktown, shall have the lands of Muricroft, now the minister's gleib, with all the rest of the fruits and its pertinents, belonging to the said church; except the tithe of the salmon of Balgowney, &c. Moreover it is appointed that the said dean shall have a chaplain and a clerk at the church of Kirktown, to minister divine service to the parishioners; and another chaplain, as a clerk at the chapel of Monycabbuck, to preach to the parishioners there. He had his manse and lodging where the minister of St. Machar now lives. He had great authority among the clergy, and was greatly respected by them. His lodging was built by order and direction of one of the kings of Scotland, because his armorial coat is yet to be seen above the outer gate. It had three yards, in one of which, at the West side of the close, are houses lately built. He had also a gleib, which is now a yard. His manse in the chanry hath

hath the chanter's manse on the East, and the treasurer's on the West of it. But since Mr. Robert Maitland, dean of Aberdeen, procured the annexation of the deanry to the King's college, anno 1579, the principal of said college is dean.

2. Is the parson of Auchterless, who was cantor, or chantor, chief musician, and rector of the musick of the church. To him pertained to instruct and teach the singing-boys in the quire. He had a large manse, which is now demolished; the lodging, yard, and gleib being now turned into a croft. This manse had the chancellor's on the East, and the dean's on the West. On the South end of this gleib were some houses, built for accommodating the tenants of the said chanter's croft; the annual rent of which is now paid to the master of the bishop's hospital.

3. Was the parson of Birse, who was chancellor of the bishop's chapter. He was to bestow pains in the correction of books, and to keep the common seal of the church and chapter, that it be laid up in a double chest in the treasury. The dean was to keep one key, and the treasurer the other; and the seal was never to be taken out but when there was particular use for it, viz. for sealing the letters of the charter. And he was to compose the letters and charters thereof, and to read therein the letters that come to them. Moreover, he was to keep the books of theology in armorials or little studies, and to exhibit them the first week of Lent, before the dean and canons, that none of them might be lost or made worse. He was to provide a fit master, that should have the government of the schools of Aberdeen, who knew how to instruct young boys in grammar, &c. He had also a title to the fishing of Balgowney. This prebend had a large Manse and yard; and had the chanter's manse on the West, and the common street leading to the chaplain's chambers on the East. Alexander Seton, chancellor of the chapter, and parson of Birse, anno 1557, disposed of his lodging in the chanry to Mr. George Seton, son to the laird of Meldrum, who was also chancellor of the chapter, and parson of Birse; and at last he disposed of it to the earl of Dunfermling, who disposed of it to Mr. John Scougal, commissary of Aberdeen;

deen; and he to his brother lord Whitehill; who fened four stances for building houses on the ground at the end of his yard, formerly the chancellor's gleib, viz. one to the deceast baillie Knight, who obliged himself to pay yearly to the said lord of feu-duty 13s. 4 pennies Scots money; another to Baillie Thompson, for the same; a third to the deceast James Conqueror, for the like; and a fourth stance to Marjory Nairn and Robert Walker, equally betwixt them; each of them paying half a merk of feu-duty. Afterwards, lord Whitehill, one of the senators of the college of Justice, and son to Patrick Scougal, bishop of Aberdeen, disposed of said lodging, yard, and feu-duties to the deceased colonel Buchan of Cairnbulg, whose son, captain Buchan, is heritor thereof, anno 1725.

4. Was the parson of Daviot, treasurer, to whose care was committed the money belonging to the church. It was a part of his office to cause keep clean the ornaments of the church, and to provide light and candles for it. He had a sufficient manse, having on the East the dean's, and on the West the parson of Belhelvie's; and for his yard and gleib, he had a part of the yard now pertaining to the duke of Gordon, on the East side thereof, whose back gate is yet to be seen next the street, as people pass to the bridge of Don. This manse is now demolished.

5. Is the parson of Raine, archdeacon, whose office was, to go about and correct the manners of the clergy of the province; and therefore was not always obliged to be personally present in the cathedral; except with the bishop in the beginning of Lent, at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and other great feasts of the year, and when he makes the Chrisma. His manse was on the West side of the chanry, with a large yard and gleib; which are two riggs of land at the West end of said yard, towards the Kettle hills. This manse pertained to Patrick Walker of Torrielieth, and hath on the North the parson of Clatt's, and on the South, the parson of Oyne's. This was an addition built to this lodging, anno 1591, which may be seen. The present heritor demolished it, anno 1722, but some of the walls are yet standing.

6. Was



6. Was the parson of Belhelvie. His manse is in a great house, opposite to the publick stile of St. Machar's church, and built by George Seton, parson of Belhelvie; witness his name, armorial-coat, three roses, and a crescent; and, for his crest, a cardinal's cap with its tresses, yet to be seen; and hath on the East the parson of Daviot's, and on the South the parson of Forbes's manse. The marquess of Huntly, some time after the Reformation, being forced to come hither and keep the church, got, or bought three of the prebend's lodgings, viz. Belhelvie, Daviot, and Forbes's; and inclosed their yards and little gleibs in a garden, and lived in said Belhelvie's manse, with his family. The present duke of Gordon built the West dyke of said garden all of stone, and high, anno 1715; and after caused build the rest of stone and brick; and the whole expence of building them amounts to 3100 merks, Scots money. The bricks, in the inner side of said dykes, are 47500; every thousand cost 12s. sterling; and now it is the best garden in the town, or about it.

7. Was the parson of Mortlach, whose manse, yard, and gleib, lie on the West side of the chanry, having the bishop's hospital at the North, and Clatt's manse at the South. King Malcolm II. of Scotland, in memory of the defeat he gave the Danes at Mortlach, founded there a bishop's see, anno 1010, and preferred one St. Bean, who was canonized, to be first bishop thereof. He sate bishop there about 30 years; and dying at Mortlach, was buried at the postern door of this church, where his effigies lies in the wall near said door, cut out of stone, yet to be seen. He also caused St. Bean to build this church, dedicated to St. Moloch. This manse and yard are ruined, and made corn-ground; which, with the gleib, now pertains to Alexander Davidson of Newton, heritor, anno 1725.

King Malcolm's prayer at the battle of Mortlach, when the Danes were like to have the victory.

" O great God of virtue, rewarder of piety, and punisher of vice! we, thy christian people, defenders of our native country, granted to us by thy bounty, now destitute of all human help against these inhuman invaders of us, have

have recourse to Thee in this our extreme necessity, praying Thee to have compassion on our miserable condition; and remove, O most merciful Lord, this cowardly temper from my people."

Then rushing on, he killed Onetus, their general, with his own hand; and his soldiers, by his example, gained a complete victory.

8. Was the parson of Oyne, whose manse, yard, and gleib, lie on the West side of the chanry. The manse is demolished; only the entry-gate yet stands. This manse hath on the North the archdeacon's, and on the South the parson of Nether-Banchory's. There is a tradition, that this prebend was protonotarius capituli; or, chief notary of the chapter; as also, that he was called Rome-raker, because he was obliged to travel to Rome with commissions, and bring instructions from it to the bishop and clergy in the chanry; which is mentioned in some old papers concerning this church. This manse hath a large yard, with a gleib, consisting of a rig of arable land at the West end thereof towards the Kettlehills.

9. Was the parson of Invercruden, or Cruden, whose manse, yard, and gleib, lie on the West side of the chanry, having on the North the parson of Ellon's, and on the South the parson of Deer's. This manse and yard are totally demolished, and a tenant's house, with some office-houses, built on the East end thereof, next the street. George Canon is heritor thereof this year.

10. Is the parson of Clatt, whose manse, yard, and gleib, lie on the West side of the chanry, having at the North the parson of Mortlach's, and at the South the parson of Rain's. It was called Tam Framper's house, because it was haunted. The deceased George Cruickshank was heritor thereof, who carried away some of the stones and other materials to build his house at the bridge of Don, for accommodating him the time of his fishing; and when the Englishmen came hither, they carried away the rest, to help to build the castle-hill of Aberdeen. This manse being demolished, a tenant hath a dwelling-house on the East end thereof next the street, with some office-houses, all which pertain now to Alex. Davidson of Newton, heritor thereof, anno 1725.

11. Is the parson of Banchory-Davenick, or Deveney, so called from Devenicus, an archdeacon, to whom this church was dedicated. It is also called the church of Nether-Banchory. His manse, yard, and gleib, lie on the West side of the chanry; having on the North the parson of Oyne's manse, and on the South the parson of Ellon's; which manse was a great lodging, with a large yard, and a gleib of arable land, consisting of a rigg at the end of said yard, lying towards the Kettlehills; all which pertain to the heirs of the deceast James Gordon of Seaton. This manse was demolished, anno 1720.

12. Is the parson of Old Deer; for New Deer was only a branch of Old Deer. This manse, yard, and gleib, were on the West side of the chanry, having on the North the parson of Cruden's, and on the South the parson of Kincardine's. He was made a prebend in the chanry, by an agreement betwixt the bishop and his chapter, and the abbot of Deer. This manse is demolished, and an house with some offices built on the East end next the street, for the use of a tenant; whereof George Conon is heritor this present year 1725. The said bishop Ramsay statuted and ordained likewise, that all the yards, crofts, or little gleibs, should be free from paying tithes for ever, anno 1256. He appointed four singing boys in the quire, who should have their salary from the community; and ordained that the dean and canons should give their oaths of fidelity, to keep and defend the customs, rights, and liberties of said cathedral church. He also ordained seven vicars, of whom two in every week (*hebdomadares per vices*); and that the mass should not be celebrated without the deacon and subdeacon, in their vestments appointed for their office. Also, when the vicars are entered, they shall give their oaths of fidelity, to be faithful to the church and chapter; and shall use black crapes and surplices, especially when they minister for the canons in the church, and have clean, honest habits, &c. Whoso does contrary to those constitutions shall be punished according to the will of the dean and chapter.

Richard Pottach, an Englishman, who became bishop of Aberdeen after bishop Ramsay's death, about anno



1256, and sate 13 years bishop, joined to the aforesaid number of the bishop's chapter the parson of Crimond, anno 1262; but where his manse is appointed him is not not known, or he has had none in the chanry.

Henry Cheyne, who became bishop of Aberdeen, anno 1281, added four prebends to the aforesaid number of the bishop's chapter. 1st, Was the parson of Lonmay, anno 1314; but 'tis not known where his manse, &c. were appointed him. 2nd, Was the parson of Aberdour, anno 1318; neither is it known where his, &c. 3d, Was the parson of Forbes, anno 1325; whose manse, yard, and gleib were in the duke of Gordon's garden, on the West side of said garden-dyke, about the middle of it; having on the North the parson of Belhelvie's manse, and on the South the parson of Philorth's. This manse (Forbes's) stood opposite to the parson of Kincardine's lodging, but was demolished a long time ago. 4th, Was the parson of Ellon, anno 1328; for the said bishop Cheyne gat the consent of the abbot and monks of the abbacy of Kinloss for doing thereof, because Ellon belonged to them; and the house of Watertown was the abbot of Kinloss's summer-house, called then Abbot's Hall. His manse lies on the West side of the chanry, between Banchory's at the North, and Cruden's manse at the South; and his gleib was Bogforth, which lies at the back of the cathedral; colonel Middleton bought Bogforth from the heirs of the deceased Thomas Forest, merchant in Aberdeen. And thereafter, James Edward, in Chapelton of Ellick, bought Ellon's manse from the heirs of the said deceased Thomas Forest. The parson of Ellon's manse was first at the North-West end of the bishop's lodgings near Bogforth.

Alexander Kininmonth, first of that name (of whom before) added to the aforesaid number the parson of Kincardine-Oneil, which was formerly an hospital for sick people; founded by Allan Durward, anno 1330. His manse, yard, and gleib, lie on the West side of the chanry, having Methlick's Manse on the South, and the parson of Deer's on the North. A son of the laird of Durris, surnamed Fraser, built a part of Kincardine-Oneil's lodging; for his name and armorial-coat were upon one of the peat-

stones thereof. At the South-end of it was an oratory, built for the ease and use of the parson of Kincardine-Onceil; and it has been upon some extraordinary occasion, when an oratory was allowed to be built within the chanry, and so near the cathedral. Mr. John Elphinston's name, parson of Kincardine, was upon the stair thereof, and perhaps caused build the oratory, which is yet entire. This great lodging pertained lately to Mr. Alexander Fraser, subprincipal of the King's college, who demolished it; and with the stones thereof built his malt-barn at Powis-Burn, near his own house, and disposed of the gleib thereof, with the oratory; and also, the parson of Deer, and Cruden's gleibs, all these three lying contiguous together, to George Conon, present heritor of them; for which he paid the said subprincipal a thousand pounds Scots money, anno 1712.

Alexander Kininmonth, second of that name, (of whom likewise before) added the five following prebends to the above number of the bishop's chapter. 1. Was the parson of Invernochtye, or Strathdon, anno 1358; whose manse, yard, and gleib, lie on the West side of the chanry, having on the North the parson of Turreff's manse, and on the South the chamber of the port, which seems to have belonged to one of the prebends. His yard and gleib, as also two other prebends' manses, cannot be known (as is thought) because Lewis Gordon of Kinmundy, present heritor, will not allow his papers to be seen. Some time after the Reformation, Sir Alexander Gordon of Cluny purchased the said manses, with four riggs at the end of their yards, which were their gleibs, from one Robert Joffe, and inclosed all into a garden. He built the gallery, and joined it to the port-chamber, anno 1623. He also purchased from Henry Adam an house and yard, in the South-East end of the yard, which hath been one of the prebends' lodgings; and bought from him that house and yard, which lie on the South side of Baillie Baxter's re-nement, now possessed by Francis Thomson, sometime late chamberlain to the earl of Panmure, for the lands of Belhelvie; and thereafter by James Johnston, merchant in Old Aberdeen, who married the relict of the said Francis Thomson;

Thomson; which was the first slated house in the old town, except those in the chanry. She repaired the said house and tenement, anno 1722. But some affirm, That Churry disponed said slated house in the old town to Henry Adam, in place of the said house and yard he had near the South-East end of Churry's Wynd. 2. Was the parson of Philorth, anno 1361, whose manse lies on the East side of the chanry; having Forbes's manse on the North, and the manse of another prebend which is not known, because the present heritor will not let his papers be seen. Alexander Irvine, weaver, hath this prebend's manse, yard, and gleib; and is heritor this year, 1725. 3. Is the parson of Methlick, anno 1362, whose manse, yard, and gleib, lie on the West side of the chanry; having on the North the parson of Kincardine's manse, and at the South the parson of Turreff's; all which now pertain to Lewis Gordon of Kinmundy, anno 1725. Walter Stewart, principal of the King's college, procured the annexation of the rectory of Methlick to said college, anno 1586; and was confirmed by king James VI. in the 20th year of his reign. This confirmation was granted upon condition, that there should be a fit person placed at the kirk of Methlick to preach to the parishioners. Since that time the eldest reader of said college is rector of Methlick. 4. Was Tillienessel, anno 1366, whose manse stands upon the church-yard dyke of St. Machar; having the bishop's hospital at the West, and the cathedral at the East. His yard and gleib have the said hospital yard at the West, and Bogforth at the East. This manse, yard, and gleib, pertained heritably to the deceast George Kilgour, sometime beadle of this church. His heirs sold them to colonel Middleton, for which he paid them seven hundred merks, Scots money, 1723. 5. Prebend was Drumbak, anno 1368; but where his manse, yard, and gleib were appointed is not certainly known; or, he had none in the chanry. Gilbert Greenlaw, who became bishop of Aberdeen, about anno 1390, added the parson of Turreff to be a member of the bishop's chapter, anno 1412. His manse, yard,



yard, and gleib, lie on the West side of the chanry; having Methlick's on the North, and Invernochtye's manse on the South. It was built by Alexander Hay, parson of Turreff, and pertains now to the trades of Old Aberdeen, with the yard and gleib both inclosed, and made a garden. And the said trades have built in the close of the aforesaid manse, an hospital for ten poor widows, tradesmen's relicts, anno 1711. This hospital was built by contributions, and the poor women living in it have not much allowance. There are an hundred merks mortified to them by the deceast Alexander Mitchell, late clerk to the trades of New Aberdeen. The trades of Old Aberdeen give them some money quarterly; and they get charity from several persons of said town. There are now in it eight women, anno 1725, who get each of them quarterly twenty shillings Scots from said trades, who likewise have appointed little kail-yards for them within said close. To the trades belongs the big house, which pays yearly twenty-eight pounds Scots money; and the yard and house on the street pay merks.

Kinkell, or Tella Principalis, was of old an habitation of the knights of Jerusalem. As there was an order of Knights Templars, instituted by pope Gelasius about anno 1120, whose office and vow was to defend the temple and the holy sepulchre at Jerusalem; to entertain strangers that came thither for devotion; and to guard them in safety, when they went to visit the places of the Holy Land; their habit being a white cloak, with a red cross, and a sword girt about them; so they were suppressed by pope Clement V. about anno 1310; and their lands were by a general council held at Vienna conferred on the knights of the order of St. John of Jerusalem; called also Joannites; and after knights of the Rhodes; and lastly of Malta; where they live to this day. But the Templars and their successors had only one house in Scotland; which was the hospital of St. Germain's in Lothian. This house was dissolved, anno 1494; and the greatest part of its revenues by king James IV. conferred upon the King's college of Aberdeen, then newly founded by bishop William

liam Elphinston. But Henry Lichtoun, bishop of Aberdeen, joined the parson of Kinkell to the above-written number of canons, and to be a member of the bishop's chapter, anno 1424. His manse lies on the West side of the chantry, having Mortlach's gleib on the South, and the chaplain of Westhall's manse on the North. His yard and gleib lie North-West; all which pertained to Alexander Gordon of Birsmore, and thereafter to Adam Gordon of Inverebrie; but the gleib belonged heritably to Patrick Walker of Torrielieth; and now to James Edward. But the said Adam Gordon disposed of this manse, with the rector of Monymusk's manse, to Mr. William Smith, second presbyterian minister of St. Machar, and got for them three hundred and fifty merks Scots money. This Mr. Smith, out of the ruins of said large manse, wherein he got much free-stone, built an house for himself, three story high, anno 1720; as also, office-houses and the yard-dyke; and levelled the height that was in the North-West end of said yard. Forasmuch as Kirkhill stood infeoffed in this manse for warrandice of his tythes about Aberdeen, granted by the said Alexander Gordon of Birsmore; the said Mr. William Smith agreed with Kirkhill, and paid him 40l. Scots, to discharge him of said warrandice. There is an annuity of ten merks paid out of said manse to St. Machar's church, and had been resting upwards of 60 years. The said Mr. Smith agreed with the Session, who passed him all by-gone annuities; but pays yearly the said ten merks in time coming.

The parson of Kinkell was a great man in the chapter; for he was patron of seven churches, viz. Kinkell, Kintore, Kinellar, Skene, Kemnay, Dyce, and Drumblait. This patronage and parsonage were annexed to the principal of St. Leonard's college of St. Andrew's, who is dean thereof; which archbishop Sharp got effectuated after king Charles the Second's restoration, about anno 1662.

The said bishop Lichtoun added the parson of Cauldflane to the aforesaid number of canons, to be a member of the bishop's chapter, anno 1424; but where his manse,

yard, or gleib, were appointed him is not certainly known; for he had none in the chanry.

Rochtiven, or Rathven, was first an hospital for infirm people. Ingraham Lindsay, who became bishop of Aberdeen immediately after bishop Lichtoun's death, about 1441, added that same year the parson of Rathven to the aforesaid number of canons, to be a member of the bishop's chapter; but, it seems, this parson had no manse, yard, nor gleib within the chanry. The said Ingraham Lindsay joined the rector of the church of Monymusk to the aforesaid number of canons, &c. anno 1441; which he did with the consent of the bishop of St. Andrew's. His manse, yard, and gleib lie on the north side of the chanry; having the bishop's hospital at the East, and the water of Don at the North. This manse, after the Reformation, belonged to Alexander Gordon of Birsemore; and at last to Adam Gordon of Inverebrie, who sold it to the said Mr. William Smith, who built therewith his said house and yard-dyke.

Afterwards, the heritors of the Cruives and Nether Don purchased the said yard and gleib, which of old pertained to the rectory of Monymusk, and disposed of them lately to the poor men who live in the bishop's hospital. The parsons of Logie-Buchan and Fetterneir, being of a later addition to the bishop's chapter, had no manses, yards, gleibs, nor tofts in said chanry. The said bishop Lindsay statuted and ordained, that every year one of the canons residing there should be procurator, general receiver or collector of all the fruits and rents of the whole churches belonging to them; and make equal distribution to the canons; together with an accompt once a year of all received by him in the chapter, when required of him.

**UTENSILS**, to be left by a preceding **PREBEND** or **CANON**, to his successor in the chanry, viz.

In the hall; a table, very sufficient, with trestles. Item, a bason, with a place to wash. Item, a table-cloth, with an hand-towel. Item, a silver spoon, and a stoup with a lid.



In his chamber, a lye-couch or bed. Item, a cover agreeing with the breadth thereof. Item, a pair of linen sheets, and two pair of blankets.

In a kitchen ; a sufficient plate, and iron pot. Item, a mortar and pestle. Item, a chain or kettle-crook. Item, a platter, a dish-clout, a spit, with lawdeir.

In the brew-house ; a lead with a cover called the mask-vat, a trough, a geil-vat or stand, a barrel,

They were to be appretiated according to their value, viz. for a pound wanting a shilling.

When any of the clergy committed a fault, or transgressed the laws made by the bishop, they were punished by the dean and chapter, or by penal mulct ; the one-half to be applied for the fabrick of the church, and the other for the reparation of the ornaments thereof. But if the fault was heinous, then the punishment was by excommunication. Every one of the canons were obliged to make ready obedience to the dean ; for he was set over all the rest, viz. canons and vicars, in the government of their souls, and reformation of their manners. When he went into the chapter-house, the canons stood all up in the quire ; when the clergy removed they bowed to him, if the bishop was not present, &c.

#### Of the TRADES in OLD ABERDEEN.

There are only five trades in this town, viz. Hammermen, which comprehend smiths, wrights, and coopers. 2. Taylors. 3. Shoemakers. 4. Weavers. And 5. Fleshers. These trades have money in their boxes. Item, they have seven mort-cloths ; one pays 7l. ; second, 6l. ; third, 5l. ; fourth, 4l. ; fifth, 3l. ; sixth, 2l. Scots, when there is occasion for lending them at burials ; and the seventh is given gratis for the poor's use. Item, they have a master of mortifications, at the same time chosen with the conveener.

When the magistrates make merchant-burghers, they pay twenty pounds Scots to the town ; half a crown of guild-wine ; fourteen-pence to the clerk ; and twelve-pence to the town's officers.

When

When the said magistrates made a trades freeman of this burgh, he pays only ten marks to the town; half a crown of guild wine; fourteen-pence to the clerk; and twelve-pence to the town's officers.

#### Of the Town's ARMOUR.

There pertain to this township firelocks, guns, muskets, halberts, swords, pikes, with a coat of mail, &c.; all kept in custody by the treasurer, or some other trustee; for the use of the town.

Bishop Elphinston, 7th of May, 1506, made the following constitutions, with the consent of the dean and canons of the chapter. He ordained, or made, confirming the constitutions of his predecessors, twenty vicars of the quire, well instructed in the priesthood, and the Gregorian song, daily tied to divine offices in the same; two deacons; two subdeacons; two acolytes, six singing boys, with a sacrist; who must at all hours be present in the quire, &c. Also, that every vicar should have twenty pounds at least for his salary, from the faculty of the canons and chapter, yearly, as they are taxed, &c.; with an honest habit at the entry of said vicars; the deacon eight pounds; the subdeacon six pounds and four pennies; and the acolyte four pounds; every one of the singing-boys fifty-three shillings and four-pennies; and the sacrist ten pounds Scots; to be paid four times in the year. Bishop Gavin Dunbar approves of the said number of the vicars; and to every one of their salaries added four shillings, according to the afore-said distributions, anno 1519.

#### Of the SACRIST'S Office.

The said bishop Elphinston first ordained, that the sacrist of the cathedral church should be a priest, constituted in the priesthood; who every day in the year, as well on holidays as festivals, should be present in *choro, cum habitu suo decen- te, tunica talari, & superpellicio*, with other vicars of the quire of said church. Item, he shall cause his beadle to ring the bells on holidays and festivals, through the whole year, summer and winter, viz, to the mattins,

mattins, at five o'clock in the morning, a quarter of an hour for the first; for the second scarcely continuing half an hour; and for the third bell, near six, a like time with the first. At six, with the beadle, he shall convene all the vicars of the quire to the mattins, with convenient habits; the mattins being performed, he shall ring a little bell for the mass of the blessed Virgin Mary, &c. He shall ring the great bells at the solemn feasts and the meetings of the canons every day throughout the year; and he shall ring at the third hour in the afternoon, &c. and at eight he shall ring the little bell for the souls of all the faithful departed. Item, he shall rule the clock day and night, and keep it in order. Item, he shall keep the cathedral day and night, and all the vestments of the altars, and the high-altar; as also, the books of the choir and chapter, with other goods pertaining to said canons.

Divine service being performed, he shall fold up the vestments decently, and lay them in the place appointed for them.

Item, he shall make clean the cathedral, quire and chapter-house, every sabbath; and the windows of the said church from all blots; and the walls from all dust and mouse-webs, four times a year; as also, the pavement every sabbath-day with water and besoms from all rottenness. Item, he shall keep the church-yard, so that bestial shall not enter into it; also, the church and church-yard, that merchant goods come not into them, in time of mercats. Item, the church, so that doves and ravens come not into it, as well in summer as in winter. Item, he shall keep the stillicides and aquæducts of said church clean, when there is need, and the windows from grass growing upon that accompt. Item, he shall provide fresh water, if need be, every day in the morning throughout the year, for holy water, and the baptismal font; and for washing their hands who minister in the church; and fire for kindling the candles of the high-altar, when needful. Item, he shall keep a lamp continually burning and shining day and night, with oil of the chapter, before the Holy Sacrament. Item, he shall light candles before the great altar and images thereof. Item, he shall repair in the quire the high-altar



altar with arras-cloth; and the bishop's seat, as well in the quire as in the chapter. Item, he ought, every holy and festival day, having on his surplice, to go before the choir in procession, with a wand in his hand, through both church and church-yard, when needful, and keep clean the holy embossed Evangel; also, he ought to provide palms on Palm-Sunday, and the day of Pentecost, at the procession. Item, he ought to cover the high-altar with a clean linen cloth. Item, he ought to cause wash all the vestments of the high-altar; the blessed Virgin Mary; the holy Cross; and the linen cloaths, and white coverings of them, every year, six times at least. These cloaths washed clean shall be laid up in the vestry. Item, he shall prepare the pulpit for the preachers, if need be. Item, he shall observe, that the lackways or scholars carry not away the cups out of the quire from any celebration of the Holy Sacrament. Item, he shall note in a table the vicars of the quire that do not celebrate the private masses every week, according to the tenor of their foundation. Item, he shall subject himself to taxation, as other vicars do. If he be deficient as to the premises, or absent himself from the matins or evening vespers, at the ringing of the bell, then shall the fourth part of his yearly salary be subtracted by the chapter.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| For all which exercises he shall receive yearly     | £. s. d. |
| from the canons of the chapter,                     | 10 0 0   |
| For ringing the bells for any dead person,          | 12 0     |
| For ringing the bell of the anniversary of the      | 6 4      |
| quire, from the vicars thereof,                     | 0 6 8    |
| For washing of the vestments and corporals of       | 0 6 8    |
| the chapter and our lady,                           | 0 6 8    |
| For keeping the stillicides,                        | 0 6 8    |
| For keeping the doves out of the church,            | 0 6 8    |
| From every canon that is received into the chapter, | 0 6 8    |
| From every canon celebrating mass on a solemn day,  | 0 0 6    |
| For cleansing the brazen vessels of the church,     | 0 6 8    |

In all (Scots money) 12 2 2  
Item, he shall not be admitted to the said office except he  
swear

swear to keep the premises, and make a sufficient sermon, lest the goods of the said church should be dilapidated, or made worse by his fault, and taken away by any person.

### Of the CHAPLAIN'S COURT.

This court was built by bishop Gavin Dunbar, anno 1519; as witness his name and armorial coat above the entry-gate, yet to be seen. This square court lies at the South-end of the bishop's garden, containing chambers for twenty vicars or chaplains; some say more; who were all served at a common table within the said court. They were priests, and performed the common service of the cathedral. It had four towers in it, one in every corner of the close; with a draw-well in the middle of it, yet remaining entire. Their kitchen stood next to the North-West tower. About the beginning of the Reformation of religion it fell into a laick person's hands; for the clerk of the register got a ratification of said court, in the time of king James VI. parl. 14. Afterwards, Patrick Forbes of Corse, bishop of Aberdeen, made it a Divinity college; and the students in divinity possessed the chambers thereof; and doctor Forbes, son to said Patrick, professor of divinity in the King's college, taught them therein.

The said bishop Forbes's grave-stone lies in bishop Gavin Dunbar's isle, with the following inscription upon it.

*Salus Deo nostro, et Agno,* " Salvation to our God, and  
Apoc. vii. 10. to the Lamb. Rev. vii. 10.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>"Hic requiescit vir incomparabilis, fulgentissimum quondam Scotiæ sidus, Patricius Forbesius, episcopus Aberdonensis, rector prudentissimus, pastor fidelissimus, prædicator eximius, scriptor egregius, consiliarius regius, studij generalis Aberdonensis instaurator, &amp; cancellarius; &amp; novæ professionis theologicæ in eodem</p> | <p>"Here lies an incomparable man, the most blazing star in Scotland in the age he lived in, Patrick Forbes, bishop of Aberdeen, a most prudent governor, a most faithful pastor, an excellent preacher, a notable writer, a most noble counsellor, one that repaired the college of Old Aberdeen, and was chancellor thereof; and founder</p> |
|---|--|

dem fundator; Baro de O- founder of the reformed re-  
 niel, Dominus a Corfe; qui ligious in the same place;  
 placide ac pie obiit, pridie Baron of Oneil, and Laird  
 paschatis, 28 Mart. Anno of Corfe. He lived peace-  
 Dom. 1635, ætatis suæ 71. ably, and died happily the  
 day before Easter, March  
 28, 1635, being 71 years.

“Cœtus stella sacri, pas- “ He was a leading star  
 torum gemma regentum; to the sacred assembly; the  
 deliciæ Corfæ, gloria cura pearl of the pastoral govern-  
 poli. Salus per Christum. ment, a glory to the name of  
 Nemo tollat, qui Deum Corfe, Heaven’s darling and  
 timet.” delight. Happy through the  
 merits of Christ. Let none  
 violate this that fears God.”

Near the said bishop’s grave-stone, lies that of the said  
 doctor Forbes’s lady, with this inscription, viz.

“Hic requiescit mater, “ Here lies the mother,  
 cum quatuor filiis, & toti- with four sons, and as many  
 dem filiabus; generosa mu- daughters, a gentlewoman  
 lier, pietate & virtute insign- remarkable for her piety and  
 nis, dulcis rosa arbor Mid- virtue, the most delicate and  
 dleburgen. conjux Joannis beautiful rose of Middle-  
 Forbesij, Domini a Corfe, burgh, spouse to John For-  
 Baronis de Oneil, Presbyteri, bes, Laird of Corfe, Baron  
 & S. S. Theolog. Doct. & of Oneil, Presbyter, Doctor  
 Professoris; quæ placide ac and Professor of Theology.  
 pie obiit, 19 Jan. 1640. Pul- She lived peaceably and died  
 vere quod tegitur corpus sine happily, 19th January, 1640.  
 labe resurget; interea frui- Her body, now covered with  
 tur mens super astra Deo.” dust, shall rise again without  
 spot or blemish; her soul, in  
 the mean time, enjoying God  
 far above the stars.”

At last, the said Dr. Forbes purchased a lodging within  
 said court, for the use of a professor of divinity in the said  
 college; and another for the use of the master of the mu-  
 sic-school in Old Aberdeep, now ruinous. The rest of  
 the



court is in laick-men's hands to this day. He was much troubled by the covenanters; his place declared vacant, anno 1643; and put from his house, which he had bought, because in the disposition to his successors he had not reserved a clause of his own life-rent. He went to Holland, anno 1644, there to remain in those troublesome times. He was a religious man, who feared God, charitable to the poor, and a singular scholar; and yet was discharged, and forced to leave his native country, because he would not comply with the covenanters, to the grief of many honest people. When he was in Holland, he caused print his great book "*De Instructionibus Historico-Theologicis.*" After he had staid two years there, he returned home, anno 1646; went to Corse, where he spent the rest of his days in preparing for death; and a little before he died desired his friends to get liberty from the minister of St. Machar, and the presbytery of Old Aberdeen, to let his corpse be interred beside his father and his own spouse, in bishop Gavin Dunbar's isle; which favour was refused, for all his friends could do thereanent. Then he desired to bury his corpse in the church-yard of Leuchil, where he lies without a monument. He died April 29, 1648.

Mr. David Anderson, a presbyterian professor of divinity in the King's college, got allowance from the synod of Aberdeen, to take two thousand merks from the money which belonged to his office, to repair his lodging in the said court; which he did, and made a convenient lodgable house, anno 1718. His name and said year are upon the peat-stones thereof. He also built an house where the chaplain's kitchen stood; which kitchen was sometime after the Reformation accidentally burnt, with some other houses. He hath also a little garden in the close, opposite to the entry of his lodging, well dyked, and an outer gate.

Account of the CHAPLAINRIES belonging to said church; their yards, manies, and little tofts or gleibs; together with some small account of the rent which pertained to them.

The chaplainry of Westhall, founded by Ingraham Lindsay, bishop of Aberdeen, was strictly tied to divine

service in the quire. His manse, yard, and gleib lie on the North side of the chanry, having the water of Don on the the North, the parson of Kinkell's manse at the South, the rector of Monymusk's manse at the East, and Tilliedron's hill at the West. Mr. Patrick Walker was heritor of this manse, yard, and gleib; and now James Edward. Since the reformation of religion, this chaplainry was annexed to the King's college, and pays yearly to it ten shilling Scots, and two merks of feu-duty; and Mr. John Horn, advocate and heritor, pays yearly for his lands of Westhall (which formerly belonged to said chaplainry), lying in the parish of Oyne, to said college 44l. of feu duty.

Item, the chaplainry of Galchol, lying in the shire of Banff, to which king David II. gave his lands of Galchol, to God and the blessed Virgin Mary, and to the bishop of Aberdeen, and the chapter thereof; to maintain a chaplain in the cathedral church of Aberdeen, to pray for the safety of his soul, his ancestors, and successors, kings of Scotland, and all the faithful departed. He grants this by a charter, written in Latin at Aberdeen, September 13; and 33d year of his reign.

Item, the chaplainry of Morphey, to pray for the soul of Duncan Laurence.

Item, the chaplainry of Mr. John Clatt, sometime a canon of Aberdeen, for a chaplain to pray at the altar of St. Katharine. He was tied to be continually present at divine service, with others in the quire. He had his manse on the East side of the chanry, close to Cluny's Port; and his yard lies on the East side of his manse; which was mortified by Patrick Sandilands of Cotton, to the bishop's hospital, sometime before his death.

Item, two chaplainries, founded by Robert Keith, marischall of Scotland, at the altar of the blessed Virgin Mary in the said church. They had rent out the lands of Kintore and Skene; now out of Garlogie, &c. viz. 40l.; which the master of the bishop's hospital takes for his salary, and an annuity of . . . payable by the earl of Kintore. This also belongs to said college.

Item, the chaplainry founded by Mr. Duncan Shurar, rector of Clatt, now united to the said college, and distributed to the students in the canon law.

Item,

Item, the chaplainry founded by Thomas bishop of Aberdeen, incorporated with the said college, and distributed to the said students.

Item, the chaplainry founded by Alexander Cullen, rector of Oyne, for the chaplain to pray at the altar of St. Nicholas at Aberdeen.

Item, a chaplainry, having 10l. of yearly rent out of the lands of Muriecroft, with its pertinents; founded by Mr. Alexander Cabell, to pray at the altar of St. Devenicus.

Item, the chaplainry of Fallow, founded for a chaplain to pray for the soul of Adam Pyngyll. This chaplain of Fallow-roule, in the parish of Fyvie in the Garioch, had his manse, yard, and gleib in Meikle-Fallow, for the vestiges of his chapel are yet to be seen in the in-town land thereof. This chaplainry was annexed to the said college; and the heritor of Meikle-Fallow pays yearly to it 40l. of fen duty, for said land; which formerly belonged to said chaplainry, &c.

#### Of the ALTARS.

Imprimis. The altar of the blessed Virgin. St. Andrew. St. Paul. St. Michael, archangel. St. Mauritius. St. Dominicus; for which altar there was rent paid out of the lands of Balgowney, now Fraserfield. St. Katharine. The high altar. St. Devenicus. The chapter. The rest are wanting. Hector Boetius (of whom before, first principal of said college, descended from the Boeths of Panbride in Angus, born in Dundee, and bred up in letters in the University of Paris), besides his History of the Scots, and the Lives of the Bishops of Aberdeen, wrote a book concerning the altars; wherein he gave a description of all the altars in said church. Moreover, the chaplains of the quire had the annuities which sometime thereafter belonged to Walter Robertson, clerk of the burgh of Aberdeen, by virtue of his majesty's gift and donations made to him under the great seal, of date July 18, 1612; which annuities the said Walter Robertson disposed back to the said church; the sum whereof is about 10l. and one penny Scots money.



# Of the COURTS of OLD ABERDEEN.

The old court books of said city being lost, the first now extant begins as follows :

The court of Old Aberdeen holden December 29, 1602 years ; the said day the haill council and community of the town did elect and choose Sir Thomas Gordon of Cluny, knight, provost of Old Aberdeen, and their bailies, &c. for the ensuuing year, who accepted, and gave their oaths *de fidei administratione*.

The said court, March 8, 1603, statute and ordain by said magistrates, That the common mercate be holden weekly on Monday, according to the fundamental charter ; and that the merchants and craftsmen come to the cross with their merchandize on the mercate day at six hours in the morning, and continue 12 hours ; ilk person disobeying under the pain of twenty-shillings. But now the weekly mercate of this city is changed from Monday to Thursday, conform to act of parliament, discharging burghs of regality and barony from keeping mercates on Monday or Saturday ; and has allowed to change them to any other day of the week, provided they pitch not the mercate-day of the royal burgh within four miles. But fleshers are excepted, who may keep flesh-mercates on those days prohibited.

The magistrates of Old Aberdeen were chosen for anno 1604, and did February 2, statute and ordain, That none within said town brew or sell dearer ale than 12d the pint ; nor dearer beer than 14d. ; under the penalty of 40s. for the first fault ; 4l. for the second ; and 8l. for the third ; and this to endure the said magistrates office, and will of the council. Item, the said day it is statuted and ordained, That every pound of candles should be sold for 3s 4 pennies, under the pain of 4l. Item, That none within this town shall sell drink after nine hours in the evening, under the pain of ten merks. Item, that none within this town shall sell milk dearer than eight pennies the pint.

The magistrates of this town, the penult day of December 1605, statuted and ordained, That no young man within this town play at cards or tables, who has no house or rent of his own ; that no man receipt him, other-

Wife

wife they shall pay 40s. *toties quoties*; and the young man who plays, shall pay 40s. *toties quoties*. For king James VI. made an act against cards and dice.

The magistrates, March 3, 1606, ordain, That no stranger-beggar be received within the town, under a penalty, and that for eschewing the present plague or pestilence; and it is statuted and ordained, That the beggars within the town shall compear within the Kirk, at two hours in the afternoon, to receive their tokens; and such as compear not to be banished the town. It is statuted and ordained the said day, by the magistrates, with consent of the haill inhabitants of the town, That said town shall be divided into four parts, for shunning said plague, and quarter-masters appointed thereto; and two brewers to be admitted allenarly, in every quarter.

The magistrates, November 28, 1606, ordain, That the haill inhabitants of the said town shall repair to the preaching in St. Machar's kirk, on Sunday and Wednesday, under the pains following, viz. the goodman and goodwife of the house contravening, 6s. 8d.; and ilk servant 2s. Scots.

The principal and masters of the college of Old Aberdeen, formerly held courts within said college several years, for the college bounds, and chose their own baillies, punished and fined delinquents, decided controversies until December 10, 1612, that bishop Blackburn elected and chose provost and baillies, both for the town and college-bounds; that their jurisdiction be not confounded, but be safe to them, and that they concur with others; which provost and baillies accepted the said office, and gave their oaths *de fidei administratione*; Mr. David Rait being principal, and common procurator of said college. The said day it was statuted and ordained, by the said provost and baillies, That whatsoever person or persons lend to any person in the college or grammar-school above a merk piece, upon a wadd or otherwise, that the same shall be null, and of no strength on the scholar; and the scholar to get back his own gear again, without paying any sum therefore; and to tyne such sums as he or she shall happen to give; and the receptor of such wadds being convicted,

victed, therefore shall pay the sum of 5*l.* to the town. Upon said day it is statuted and ordained by the said provost and baillies, that the haill wells within the said town shall be built an ell high above the earth, before . . . . . day of December instant month by the possessors, or else be closed up or condemned; ilk person failing under the pain of five merks Scots money.

The magistrates, February 22, 1613, ordained, That whosoever he be that deforces the officers within said town, in execution of their office, and putting their decret in execution; ilk person, man or wife, deforcing, shall be put to the stocks the space of 48 hours, and pay 1*ol.* before they come out thereof.

Anno 1614, April 5, it was statuted and ordained, by the magistrates of the town (the kirk being lately repaired), that whatsoever bairn or scholar be found within the kirk or kirk-yard, playing or casting stones on the kirk, or breaking windows, that the owner of the bairn, or master of the servant, shall pay 6*s.* 8*d.* Scots, *toties quoties*, and the vagabonds to be bound to the cross, and bridled thereat, and stand 24 hours bound.

Anno 1617, November 4, The magistrates of this town appointed four several persons to go weekly through the town, and taste the drink; and when the same is found insufficient, to declare the same to the baillies, that it may be confiscate to the poor folks.

Anno 1634, November 4, the said day, it was statuted and ordained by the magistrates, with consent of the inhabitants of said town, That every man within said town shall build his own causeway forenent his own dwelling, betwixt the date hereof and the 20th of December next, under the pain of 1*ol.*; and this confirmed by a town-serjeant act.

Anno 1660, April 30, The principal and members of the King's college, and Mr. William Lind, late baillie in Old Aberdeen, elected betwixt them, for marching the common road or gate that goes to the Tyle-burn, viz. Mr. James Howey of Mameulay, Thomas Gordon of Kathock's Mill, and Thomas Angus, baillies in Old Aberdeen, with powers to cause set marches and stones for knowing



knowing ilk one division; which the said arbiters did, and ordained the same to be recorded in the town and college books, there to remain *ad futuram rei memoriam*; which marches were set before witnesses, indwellers in said town.

Anno 1661, October 14, James Gordon of Seaton, William Johnston of Middleton, and captain Arthur Forbes were chosen baillies for the ensuing year; and at that time were chosen to be councillors Mr. George Gordon, professor of philosophy in King's college, son to the deceased Sir George Gordon of Haddo. Thereafter the said George Gordon applied himself to the study of law, and was made president of the council of Scotland, and afterwards advanced by king Charles II. (in regard of his great parts and qualifications) to be high chancellor of Scotland, and after that was made earl of Aberdeen. To the said Mr. George Gordon were chosen councillors in Old Aberdeen, Mr. Patrick Sandilands, subprincipal in said college, Mr. William Johnston, professor of philosophy, Thomas Gordon of Kathock's-Mill, Patrick Gordon of Boghole, &c. all councillors in said city of Old Aberdeen for the year to come.

Anno 1662, April 22, It was condescended upon by the said magistrates and council, that there should be a commissioner sent to the bishop, (viz. Mr. David Mitchell) at Edinburgh, for bringing him to the said city to dwell; and the said commissioner should have 100l. Scots, to make his expences; and the town to be presently stented therefore; and at the same time elect James Gordon of Seaton, baillie, to be commissioner.

Anno 1662, June 3, the bishop's letter being read by James Gordon of Seaton, commissioner, in which the bishop desires the baillies and council to provide an house, &c. the baillies and council condescended upon the chancellor's manse, being free for the time; and the council ordain the present baillies with some of the council, September 17, 1662, to borrow an hundred merks Scots from Dr. Andrew Muir, for reparation of said house, upon the town's accompt, who gave their bond therefore; and the council declare to relieve the aforesaid persons at all hands.

Anno

Anno 1663, November 10, The said court holden by the reverend Dr. Alexander Burnett, bishop of Aberdeen, who the said day elected James Gordon of Seaton, William Johnston of Middleton, and Mr. John Dalgarno doctor of medicine, baillies for the year to come, who gave their oaths *de fidei administratione*.

The said court holden October 11, 1665, by the right reverend Dr. Patrick Scougal, bishop of Aberdeen, who elected James Gordon of Seaton, Patrick Gordon of Boghole, and George Gordon of Kathocksmill, baillies in Old Aberdeen for the year to come.

Anno 1667, Mr. John Scougal, commissary, was elected provost in said city by his father and the baillies, &c.

The said court holden April 11, 1668, by Dr. Andrew Muir, Mr. Patrick Sandilands, and William Forbes, baillies, the said day it was statuted and ordained, That no person, nor any inhabitant within this town go to Seaton, or any part about the town, to play at the bowls at any time hereafter; whosoever shall do in the contrary hereof shall pay 5*l.* Scots *toties quoties*, for every contravention that shall be made against them. And a person was sent to the principal of the college to restrain the students from using said game, in respect of diverse inconveniencies that shall happen out thereby.

King Charles II. parliament 1st, Sess. 3. There was an humble offer to his majesty of 20,000 foot and 2000 horse, armed and furnished with twenty days provision, proportioned upon the shires, to be in readiness, as they shall be called out by his majesty, to march to any part of his dominions against a foreign invasion, or any intestine insurrection; or any other service wherein his majesty's honour or authorities may be concerned: That every footman should have 6*s.* Scots in the day, and the horseman 18*s.* Scots; the horse to be worth 10*l.* sterling; which was ratified in said parliament of session.

Anno 1668, June 3, by the commissioners of the shire of Aberdeen, the militia were ordered to be sent forth for his majesty's service, &c. There were four militia-men, and a fourth part of a horse put forth for the town of Old Aberdeen. The men were well mounted with cloaths and

and armour, and the leader of the horse was lady Kigier who had a lodging in the chanry, and a hanner upon Don.

Anno 1680, December 14, The said day the merchants in Old Aberdeen desired from the provost and baillies, the liberty of collectors within the town; one in every quarter, and a cash-keeper; in reference to the building a new loft in St. Machar's church, for the magistrates and their own accommodation; which design was granted by the said provost and baillies, conform to a right granted to the merchants by the right reverend Patrick bishop of Aberdeen.

Anno 1681, May 21, the treasurer represented, that he being obliged to pay to the town yearly 20l. Scots of brew-custom, and the greatest part of the brewers delayed, and many of them refused to pay, though formerly in use to pay; wherefore the baillie, viz. Mr. John Buchan, regent, ordered, That every boll of malt sold within the town by countrymen, shall pay 12s. Scots to the treasurer; and this to be in the place of the brew-customs of malt, which is hereby discharged to them in all time coming.

Anno 1682, October 14, The said court was holden by the reverend Dr. George Halyburton, bishop of Aberdeen, who elected the magistrates of said town till next election.

Anno 1683, October 15, The bishop elected James Scougal Provost, James Gordon of Seaton, Mr. John Buchan, Mr. George Frazer, regents of the King's college, and Mr. Patrick Gordon, humanist there, baillies.

Item, the said bishop made an act concerning the holding of the town's courts of Old Aberdeen, and ordained, that the baillies should sit to administer justice monthly *per vices*; and that one baillie should sit weekly in the council-house, ilk Saturday of ilk week, at ten hours in the forenoon, to administer justice, conform to former acts, made thereanent.

Item, the said bishop made an act, That no man within the town shall go before any other judge to pursue his law-suits, under a penalty, &c.

Anno 1689, March 11, The provost and baillies who were chosen for the current year, made an act discharging



the town's officers from charging the inhabitants before the bishop's baillies (who held courts for the bishop's vassals), or meddling with any affairs before that court, &c.

The court of Old Aberdeen, holden March 23, 1689, by Mr. James Keith, one of the baillies that were chosen for this current year; it was appointed by the said baillie, with consent of the council, that a letter be sent to the bishop anent the division of the kirk, and to recommend the heritors to the prebendary, &c.

Anno 1689, March 22, An act was made by the provost and baillies of this town against washing at the channel within the chanry, or at Powie's bridge, above the bridge, or on the common street, under the pain of 4s. to be paid to the treasurer, and 12s. to the officer, who is appointed to take the washing-tubs and cloaths while they be paid; and that for each transgression, *toties quoties*.

Anno 1689, May 8, The said court holden by the said baillies, viz. the said Mr. George Frazer and Mr. James Keith, the said day, the baillies with the heritors of riggs and roods of land in Old Aberdeen, having met in the council-house, ordered a collector to collect the money for the out-rigging the fourth part of the militia-horse, being 40s. upon the 100l. rent; which will extend upon the roods of Old Aberdeen to 13l. 6s. 8d. Scots, which the magistrates appointed the heritors to pay to the collectors, under the pain of quartering, &c.

Anno 1689, The said baillies made an act anent exercising the inhabitants of Old Aberdeen in the discipline of war, that they should meet every day, except on the Sabbath-day, the number of 24 men, on the bowling-green in the college, at three o'clock in the afternoon; and John Keith, writer in Edinburgh, is desired by the said baillies to exercise them.

Anno 1689, Mr. Patrick Gordon, humanist, in the King's college, and Mr. James Keith, being baillies in Old Aberdeen, for fear of an invasion from the highlandmen, appointed nightly a guard of 24 men, each night, by and attour the captains; and to begin at nine o'clock at night, and to continue till five in the morning.

Anno 1689, November 6, The said court holden by Mr. James Keith, baillie; Forasmikle as there have been  
several

several complaints anent the deep draw-well in the deceast John Frazer's close, it being level at the ground; and that children in the day-time and old persons in the night have fallen into it, by reason there was no mantling about the top of it; and though the magistrates formerly had desired or ordered Marjory Irvine, relict of the deceast of John Frazer, to build the said well with mantling of timber above the ground, and that she had done nothing thereanent; therefore, for preventing any danger for the future, the said baillie and council order James Duguid, wright, to make the mantling of said well of his own timber, and order the said Marjory Irvine for one year's rent within the close, to pay for building of the same to the wright, certifying them that they shall have retention in their own hands, in the first end of their respective mailles; and that the said disbursements shall be allowed them.

Anno 1690, February 15. The said court holden by the said baillie Mr. James Keith, James Duguid gave in a petition to the baillie and council, Whereas he had built a ravelling about the aforesaid well, and the expence thereof extends to 5l. 10s. 8d. Scots; therefore, the baillie orders the said tenants to pay the wright the aforesaid accompt, or any of them; and orders the said Marjory Irvine to grant them a discharge thereanent, &c. This lodging, with the yard, malt-barn, kiln, close, and well, with the brew-house next the barn on the North-side, now made a dwelling-house, and this year, 1726, possessed by Alexander Cruickshank, wheelwright, his wife and family; as also the house in the end of the close, all the aforesaid tenement, &c. belongs to William Chrystie, master of the musick-school in Old Aberdeen; and now the said well hath a sufficient stone wall round about the top thereof, for a defence (through the providence of God) to prevent danger to any person, &c.

Anno 1690, April 23, There was produced an act of privy-council, for electing the magistrates of Old Aberdeen. The magistrates and council having petitioned the lords of privy-council thereanent; the lord advocate said, By abolishing prelacy, the power of nomination of magistrates belongs to the king; but in respect of necessity, they might

might name for magistrates of that burgh of barony. Then they appointed Mr. George Fraſer, ſubprincipal of King's college, Mr. James Keith of Aquhorſk, and William Baxter, advocate in Aberdeen, indwellers in Old Aberdeen, to be magiſtrates for this year.

Anno 1690, November 11, In preſence of the ſaid Mr. George Fraſer and William Baxter, bailties, the ſaid day there was a complaint given in by ſome of the heritors; That in payment of ceſs and other impoſitions there hath not been a true rental of the riggs, &c. in Old Aberdeen; neither in the town nor chanry; which being exactly caſten, the ſum of the hail is 218 bolls, recorded in the town's books, and ſigned by the aforeſaid bailties, &c.

Anno 1691, July 16, The magiſtrates and council of this town having petitioned the lords of the privy-council to nominate magiſtrates to rule the city of Old Aberdeen for this preſent year; wherefore they nominated Mr. Alexander Fraſer, regent of the King's college, and James Knight, merchant in Old Aberdeen, and two other magiſtrates of ſaid burgh, to be magiſtrates for the ſpace of a year.

Anno 1691, October 24, Mr. John Johnſton was admitted clerk to the town and trades of Old Aberdeen, *ad vitam vel culpam*, and freed (by the provoſt and bailties then, viz. Mr. John Scougal, provoſt, Mr. Robert Forbes, regent in the King's college, and Patrick Hay, advocate in Aberdeen, indweller in Old Aberdeen, bailties) from paying exciſe for his brewing within the town of Old Aberdeen, during his office of clerkſhip; and this act is ſigned by the aforeſaid provoſt and bailties.

But the court of Aberdeen holden September 7, 1691, Mr. Alexander Fraſer and James Knight being bailties, with the other magiſtrates, viz. the ſaid day, the bailties, with the conſent of the treaſurer and council, and alſo of Mr. John Johnſton, preſent clerk of ſaid town, do nominate and authorize William Orem, notary-publick, writer in Old Aberdeen, to be conjunct clerk with the ſaid Mr. John Johnſton, all the days of his life-time; and after his deceaſe to be ſole clerk of ſaid town; and for them and their ſucceſſors, magiſtrates, treaſurer and council, admit him thereto, during all the days of his life-time; reſerving to the



the said Mr. John Johnston, all the days of his life-time, the haill salary and casualties that pertains to his office; and after his death accerts to the said William Orem, during his life-time; with full power to the said William Orem to the said office, jointly with the said Mr. Johnston; or alone, in case of his absence or sickness; and for the said William's better encouragement, they grant by them and their successors in office, to him yearly, during all the time of the said Mr. Johnston's life-time, the composition of any one burges in the town of Old Aberdeen ilk year, together with the sum of 10l. Scots money, to be paid at Martinmas and Whitsunday by equal portions, and ordain the treasurer to make punctual payment thereof. This admission was signed by the aforesaid baillies.

Anno 1691, December 3, Mr. Alexander Frazer and James Knight being baillies; the said day it was ordained, that no person within the town shall sell ale or any other liquor to students after eight o'clock at night, under the failzie of four pounds Scots, *toties quoties*; otherwise, acquaint one of the baillies thereanent, if the students remove not at that time.

Anno 1692, There is an act of privy-council for continuation of the said baillies of Old Aberdeen for the ensuing year.

After the death of Mr. William Orem, George Adam, notary-publick, and advocate in Aberdeen, was admitted conjunct-clerk with Mr. John Johnston, in the same terms with the said Mr. William Orem; which admission was signed by Mr. Alexander Frazer and James Knight, baillies, &c.

The said court, holden March 13, 1695, by Mr. Alexander Frazer and James Knight, baillies in Old Aberdeen; the same day it was statuted and ordained by them, with consent of the council, that no person within the town of Old Aberdeen presume to shear or take bent from the Links or Bentiehillocks, under the pain of ten pounds, *toties quoties*.

#### OF THE BISHOP'S HOSPITAL.

The said bishop Gavin Dunbar granted a charter at Edinburgh, February 25, 1531, founding an hospital for  
I twelve

twelve poor men, an hundred feet in length and thirty-two in breadth, having a timber steeple with a bell; twelve little chambers, with as many little chimneys for a little fire in each of them; a common kitchen; and in the east end an oratory. Dominus John Erskine had got from the king 200*l.* yearly out of the fishings and lands of Aberdeen, which the said bishop bought from him, and mortified it to the said 12 poor men. Each should get twelve merks of said sum at four terms in the year, and a merk to buy a white coat. Their director was to get five merks of said sum; and the rest for bringing fire to them. They who were to be admitted to this hospital should be unmarried men of sixty-years; and no women to be seen in their chambers. One of them was appointed to be janitor, to open the outer gate, ring the bell in the morning, and at seven o'clock; and then at eight they go into the oratory to their devotions; at eleven to the mass in the cathedral-church; the bell of the hospital being rung, they go to dinner; at three to their devotions in the oratory; and thereafter to their exercises in the garden; at five to their devotions again in the oratory; and also at eight; and thereafter to their supper in their private cells; and were obliged in their devotions to pray for the king and bishop's soul, and all their friends.

If any were contentions, and did not agree with his neighbours, he was to be punished in his person, or extruded by the director, with advice of the dean and chapter.

None were to be received but such as were of a good conversation, and lived in the bishop's lands; or those who had wrought about the kirk, the bishop's palace, prebend's lodging in the chanry, about the bridge of Dee; or had done service in the King's wars; which failing, the blind and the lame, &c.

King James V. confirms this charter before many witnesses, at Edinburgh February 24, 1531. The said hospital was dedicated to God and the blessed Virgin Mary. The said bishop Dunbar gave the ground for the stance thereof, with the ground for its garden, which lies on the North side of the chanry; having the parson of Tillienestle's manse on the East, and the rector of Monymusk's manse on the West, and the water of Don on the North.

Gavin Dunbar became bishop of Aberdeen about 1518, and died March 6, 1531, about St. Andrews, before the said hospital was built; for above the gate is an inscription, viz. *Per Executores*; and on the South side of said oratory another inscription, viz.

“ Duodecim pauperibus domum hanc Reverendus Pater, Gavinus Dunbar, hujus almæ sedis quondam pontifex, ædificari jussit, anno a Christo nato, 1552.

*Gloria Deo.*

“ Gavin Dunbar, a reverend Father in God, who was some time bishop of this holy see, ordered this house to be built for twelve poor men, anno 1532.

Glory to God.”

Within said oratory there is another, viz.

“ Isthuc oraturus Deum, memor, precor, sis animæ salutis Gavini Dunbar, almæ sedis Aberdonensis quondam pontificis, hujus cellulæ pauperum fundatoris, qui apud Sanct. Andream naturæ debitum persolvit, sexto Idus Martij, tricesimo fessq; millesimo. At homines quibus alimentum dedit orare tenentur.

“ Gloria episcopi est pauperum opibus providere. Ignominia sacerdotis est proprijs studere divitijs. Patientia pauperum non peribit in finem.”

“ Whoever thou be that comest to pray to God in this place, I beseech thee remember in thy prayers the safety of the soul of Gavin Dunbar, sometime bishop of the holy see of Aberdeen, and founder of this little cell for the poor, who died at St. Andrews, March 6, 1530. But those whom he alimented are bound to pray for him.

“ It is the glory of a bishop to provide for the poor, but a reproach to a priest to study only how to make himself rich. The Lord will not suffer the poor to perish \*.”

Upon the South side of said hospital are to be seen the armorial-coats of King James V. of Scotland, and the said bishop Gavin Dunbar. In said oratory there is a desk for a chaplain, and seats also for said poor men; and

\* The last sentence is from Psalm ix. 18. “ The patient abiding of the poor shall not perish for ever.”



a little baptizary in the South wall thereof. The bishop of Aberdeen is patron of this hospital. There is not so much rent now belonging to it as would maintain said number of men; for several persons have broken with their mortified money. There are only eight in it this year, 1725; and each of them gets 50s. Scots money monthly, which is 10s. more than they used to get formerly. They get yearly an hundred loads of peets, and a side of beef at Yule; by and at attour they get gratuities from several well-disposed persons. The members of the commissary-court of Aberdeen have been still very charitable to them; for the commissary gives them yearly two dollars or 5l. 16s.; and the clerk, and every procurator half a dollar yearly, at two terms; the one-half at the down-sitting of the Summer session; and every Thursday during the two sessions, they get 6s. Scots out of the sentence-money of the court.

They are commonly called Bead-men, because of old they used to say their pater-noster, and their prayers, by numbering their beads.

At the beginning of the reformation of religion, William Gordon, the last Roman catholic bishop of Aberdeen, makes the following inventory of the silver plate, and others belonging to said church, as the same was delivered in custody and keeping, upon restitution and for the use of the church, by the aforesaid William Gordon, July 17, 1559, subscribed by him and the receivers; with an obligation of restitution within ten days of premonition. The witnesses follow, viz. John Leslie of Balquhain, William Leslie his son, William Seton of Meldrum; Duncan Forbes of Monymusk, Alexander Gordon of Abergeldie, Alexander Leslie of Pitcaple, John Gordon of Craig, Sir Patrick Ogstone, Alexander Paip and Nicol Hay, notars publick.

#### THE INVENTORY.

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Imprimis. Delivered to Mr. Robert Erskine, dean | } lb. oz. dr. |
| of Aberdeen, candlesticks, chalices, papes,     |               |
| and crosses, weighing 113½ ounces,              |               |

Brought

|   | lb. | oz. | dr. |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Brought over,   | 7   | 1   | 8   |
| Item, To Mr. John Stewart, archdeacon of Aberdeen, ninety-two ounces,   | 5   | 12  | 0   |
| Item, To Mr. Alexander Seton, chancellor, basons, censers, and chalices,  | 5   | 9   | 8   |
| Item, To Mr. James Strahan, parson of Belhelvie, 91 ounces,   | 5   | 11  | 0   |
| Item, To Mr. Henry Lindsay, parson of Kin-kell, 90 ounces,  | 5   | 10  | 0   |
| Item, To Mr. Alexander Anderson, parson of Mortlach, 83 ounces,   | 5   | 3   | 0   |
| Item, To Mr. William Hay, parson of Turreff, 91 ounces,   | 5   | 11  | 0   |
| Item, To Mr. Mr. William Campbell, parson of Tillienestle, 24 ounces,   | 1   | 8   | 8   |
| Item, To Mr. Patrick Myreton, treasurer, 89 ounces, with a great gold chain, and great ring,  | 5   | 9   | 8   |
| Item, To Mr. John Leslie, parson of Oyne, the image of the blessed Virgin Mary, of 114 ounces,  | 7   | 2   | 0   |
| Item, To Mr. James Gordon, of Lonmay, parson, 16 ounces,  | 1   | 0   | 0   |
| Item, To the aforesaid treasurer, five chalices for daily use, and two crowns, overlaid with pure gold, with rich precious stones in them   | 53  | 12  | 8   |
| Item, To the Earl of Huntly, chancellor of Scotland, into his custody, upon his bond of restitution to the said church, upon ten days warning, and premonition by the bishop of Aberdeen, dean, and chapter, and their successors, dated November 17, 1559; his cautioners therein being William Leslie of Kirkhill, and George Barclay of Cairntillie, the species following, under the pain of God's curse; and the |     |     |     |

Brought forward, lb. oz. dr.  
53 12 8

said bond is ordained to be registrated in the commissary-court books of Aberdeen.

Imprimis. A chalice of pure gold, with the pattine thereof, three pointed diamonds in the foot of it, and two great rubies of bishop Gavin Dunbar's gift, 59 ounces, (31.

11 oz.

Item, A great ancharist, double over-gilt, artificially wrought, } 14 2 0

Item, Two silver candlesticks, } 6 14 4

Item, An holy water font, and a stick all of silver, } 6 12 0

Item, A silver cross, part over-gilt, } 6 8 0

Item, A book, with the written Evangel', of which the outer side is silver, double over-gilt, } 3 4 0

Those above written of pure gold, are marked with bishop Gavin's Dunbar's arms.

Item, The bishop's great mitre over-gilt with gold, and all overset with oriental pearls and precious stones, } 5 15 0

Item, Two silver staves pertaining to the bishop's pontificals, one weighing, } 6 7 0

And the other, with the king's arms, } 2 13 0

The sum of the silver work, 108 8 12

Of VESTMENTS. Imprimis. Six capes of cloth of gold. Three of red cloth of gold, champed with velvet. One of gold, champed with white velvet. One of gold, champed with blue velvet. A forbesed cape and carbuncle. Five of red velvet. Four of blue velvet. Five of white damask. Two of green champed velvet. One old cap of gold; and three mort-capes, of double worsett.

For the ALTAR. A front of gold, and green velvet. 2. Another of blue silk, with images of gold. 3. Two of carbuncle. 4. Two of arras. 5. One of fustian. 6. One



6. One of linen. 7. Two napkins. 8. One rich hand-towel. 9. Four cushions of cloth of gold, lined with green velvet. 10. Two of cloth and silk. 11. Six of champed red velvet. 12. Four of old cloth of gold.

The PONTIFICALS. A cheiseibull; four tunicles; three stoles; five favons of cloth of gold; five albs; five amicts, with the paruts of cloth of gold.

A cheiseibull; two tunicles; two stoles; three favons, of cloth of gold and red velvet; three albs and amicts, with paruts of the same stuff. A cheiseibull; two tunicles; one stole; one favon of white velvet and gold; three albs; three amicts of white velvet, and cloth of gold; two paruts.

A cheiseibull; two tunicles; two stoles; three favons; three albs; three amicts; three paruts; all of red velvet. As many of green velvet, &c. and all conform.

A stand of white silk, with all conform, and set with pearls. A stand of carbuncle; with cheiseibull; stoles; tunicles; amicts; favons; albs; and all conform.

A stand of brown silk, and cloth of gold; and all conform. A stand of pined silk; and all conform. A stand of white damask; and all conform. A cheiseibull, &c. with all conform, of white fustian. A mort-stand, of black damask; and all conform, with the like pertinents. A stand of red scarlet; and another of brown camblet; all conform.

A great belt of green silk, knapped with gold; and another of silk and gold. Five rich belts, with blue and white bridges, knapped; and other five of gold and silk, knapped.

A corporal-caice, with a cover of cloth of gold; two corporals; one great stole; with two tunicles of white damask; two shoes of cloth of gold; with red damask hosen for my lord's pontificals.

Three beacons of brocade sattin. Another richly wrought. A great rich veil, with the towes. A veil for our lady. Another for the rood loft.

Two great curtains, red and green, for the high altar. The covering of the sacramental house; with an antipend for our lady's altar, of blue and yellow brocade sattin.

An

An antepend for the sacramental house; with dornick towels to the same. A beaken for the sepulchre, of damask; and another of double worstett; with a great verdure, that lies before the altar. Three banners for the procession; and two burials, with their crists; with a cape for the cross; four tunicles and albs, for the bairns. The hail hangers of arras-work, of pieces for the quire; three mort-capes, &c.

The glorious structure of said cathedral-church, being near nine-score years in building, did not remain twenty entire; when it was almost ruined by a crew of sacrilegious church-robbers. For anno 1560, the barons of the Mernis, accompanied with some of the townsmen of New Aberdeen, having demolished the monastery of the Black-Friers in the School-hill of Aberdeen, and that of the Grey-Friers in the Green, &c. came to Old Aberdeen, and began to rob said church, which they spoiled of all its costly ornaments and jewels; except those which Huntly and the canons had got into their custody. They demolished the rest of the chancel, which was built close to the East end of said cathedral. It had a large pretty quire, well furnished with seats and stalls, for accommodating the clergy at mass.

In the end of said chancel stood the high-altar, well adorned with windows, and finely glazed, as some write.

#### Of FRIARS.

The said friars were differenced from monks, in that monks were confined to their cloisters; whilst more liberty was allowed to friars to go about, and preach in neighbouring parishes. As also, monks had nothing in propriety, but all in common. Friars had nothing in propriety, nor in common; but, being mendicants, begged all their subsistence from the charity of others. But they met with very bountiful benefactors; and in Scotland, when their nests were pulled down, were too rich to profess poverty. The Dominicans, or Black Friars, called also Prædicatores, Preaching Friars, were instituted by St. Dominick, a Spaniard, anno 1206, confirmed by Pope Honorius III. 1216. The Franciscans, or Grey Friars, called also Minorites, were

were instituted by St. Francis, an Italian, about anno 1198, and confirmed by pope Innocent III. His rule prescribed chastity, obedience, poverty, much fasting, and other austerities, to all that should be admitted of that order. The Franciscans are *Minores, tam observantes quam conventuales*. The Carmelite Friars had their beginning at and name from Mount Carmel in Syria, being instituted by Almericus, patriarch of Antioch, anno 1112. They are also called White Friars. The Trinity Friars, or Mathurines, follow. These were also called Robertines, & *de redemptione captivorum*; whose work was to beg money of well-disposed people for ransoming of Christian captives from the slavery of the Turks. I can give no account concerning the several orders of Nuns in Scotland. The Grey-Sisters had their houses at Dundee, Aberdeen, and Sheens near Edinburgh. Thus much concerning Friars; now,

#### Of Monks in general.

In the infancy of Christianity, when persecution was grown so hot that most cities and populous places were visited therewith, many godly men fled into deserts, there to live with more safety, and serve God with less disturbance. Those were called monks, from *monos, solus*; as living alone by themselves. Their houses were either caves, grotts, or little cells; what would hide and heat, cover and keep warm, served them for cloaths. Herbs and roots were their diet, and water their drink. In these solitary places they spent their lives, constantly in prayer, reading, meditating, and such pious employments. They vowed no poverty, chastity, or obedience; thus continued they during the heat of persecution; and when peace was restored, they returned to their former dwellings, resuming their callings, which they had not left off, but for a time laid aside. Afterwards there sprung up another kind of monks, leading a solitary kind of life, when no persecution forced them thereunto. These, considering the inconstancy of human affairs, that though they had prosperity for the present, it might soon be changed into a contrary condition, if either the restless endeavours of Satan took effect, or sinful Christians were rewarded according to their deserts; and prompted also thereunto by their own



own melancholick dispositions, chose a lone life, and lived in deserts; afterwards they were gathered together to live under one roof, because their company would be chearful in health, and needful in sickness one to another. They sustained themselves by their labour (for every one had a calling whereby to gain his livelihood), and relieved others by their charity; and very strict were they in their lives and conversations. But afterwards, monks having sufficiency, turned lazy; then getting, waxed wanton; and at last, endowed with superfluity, became notoriously vicious; and so they continued till they were finally extirpated. So far concerning their original. Now proceed we to their several orders.

First, are the Benedictines, or Black Monks; so called from St. Benedict, or Bennet, an Italian (who flourished about anno 500), first father and founder of that order. The Benedictines and Augustinians came into Scotland about one time.

The Cluniacks are Benedictines, sifted through a finer sieve, with some additions invented and imposed upon them by Odo, abbot of Clugni or Clugni, in Burgundy, who flourished anno 913.

The Cistercians were so called from Robert abbot of Cisteaux in Burgundy, who, anno 1088, refined the drossy Benedictines.

The monks of the order of the Valley of Reeds, *Valle Caulium*, are a branch of the reformed Cistercians, whose institutions, both in habit, diet, divine offices, &c. they punctually observe; but with great strictness confine themselves to much narrower bills. They possess very mean revenues, being wholly intent upon their devotions, and may not go without the bounds of the monastery; it being only lawful for the prior and one of the order to go abroad upon necessary occasions, and to visit the monasteries under their charge. They are daily employed in dressing the gardens of fruits and herbs, which are within the bounds of the monastery, and improved for the use of it. The Augustinians are older in Europe than the Benedictines. These observe the institutions of St. Augustine bishop of Hippo, who was St. Benedict's senior

by

by 60 years. The Augustinians are also called regular canons.

The order of the Præmonstratenses was founded by Norbert, born at Cologne, and afterwards archbishop of Memberg. He is said to have done it at the command of the blessed Virgin, who appeared to him; whereupon with some companions he retired into a desolate place, Præmonstratum (thence comes the title of the order), where they settled their society, anno 1120. They are under the rule of St. Augustine, which, they tell us, Norbert in a vision immediately received at the hand of St. Augustine himself. The habit of their order is a white garment, and over that a white cloak or mantle, with a cowl upon their head of the same colour.

The Tironses (as I conceive) are not a distinct order of monks, but rather young novices, or fresh-water monks\*.

In a catalogue of the religious houses in Scotland, there are some styled or termed *Ordinis Tironensis*, which if it ever written *Turonensis*, would relate to Tours in France; and the rather, because there is in France a *Conventus Turonensis* of Augustinian monks; but wherein, or whether they differed from others, I know not. But leaving that to the reader's further enquiry, we proceed next to the monks of the order of St. Anthony, whose original was from St. Anthony, an Egyptian; who about the time of the later persecutions not long after Decius, retired into the deserts, where he lived about an hundred years, and became the father of an eremitick life, wherein he educated all those disciples that resorted to him. After whose example, other orders were set up. About the time of the wars in Palestine, his body was translated from Constantinople to Mota (now called St. Anthony), a town in the province of Viennois in France, where it was honourably laid up in a church built to his memory, and became famous for miraculous cures. Among which, Gasto, a

\* The order of Tiron was instituted by St. Bernard, and took their name from their first monastery, which was founded at Tiron about 1100. They were reformed Benedictines, whose habit was at first a light which was afterwards changed into black, Tanner's Notitia M. introd. p. xvi.

nobleman of the province, and his son Girond, being healed of a mortal plague, dedicated themselves and all they had to St. Anthony, wholly devoting themselves to the curing and attending of the sick that came thither; to whom, shortly after, eight more joined themselves, who combined into a society. This was about anno 1121. Their order was confirmed by several popes; especially Boniface VIII. anno 1297; who prescribed unto them rules, and conferred upon them their privileges. They observe the rule of St. Augustine's order; and, as the peculiar and distinguishing badge of their order, wear about their necks the letter T in gold or silver, hanging upon their breasts, and carry a little bell about them. The monks of this order had only one convent in Scotland, at Leith; but who was the founder thereof, I cannot learn. The Carthusians were instituted by St. Bruno, a native of Cologne; who being a Parisian doctor of divinity, and a canon of Rheims, abandoned the world, and with six associates began his austere eremitical life on the Carthusian mountains, in the diocese of Grenoble, with the licence of Hugh, then bishop thereof. This Bruno flourished under pope Urban II. and died anno 1101. King James I. brought the Carthusians into Scotland, and built them a convent in Perth (known afterwards by the name of Charter-house) about anno 1430. But to return.

These robbers having shipped the lead, bells, and other utensils of said church and chancel, intending to expose them to sale in Holland, by one William Birnie; all said ill-gotten wealth sunk, by the just judgment of God upon sacrilege, not far from the Girdle-ness, with the said William Birnie, anno 1560.

The body of the said church was preserved from utter ruin by the earl of Huntly; anno 1607, the said cathedral was repaired, and covered with slates, at the charge of the parishioners; and continued in good repair for the space of 81 years.

After this the aforesaid great steeple fell to the ground, anno 1688, in bishop Haliburton's time, who was put to rest in the beginning of the Revolution, anno 1715, died in his own house in Angus, anno 1715.

The



The occasion of its fall was, 1st, The Englishmen taking away the walls of the chancel, which guarded it upon the East, to build the fortifications of the castle-hill at Aberdeen, anno 1652, or thereby. 2ndly, The king's mason having sighted it a year before its fall, advised, that there might be buttresses built to support it on the East side, and to keep them five spaces from the foundation. But the masons, contrary to this advice, began at the foot of its foundation, which occasioned it immediately to fall. Then it broke the college and merchant's lofts, and many desks and grave-stones in the church and the two isles, which had been laid upon persons of distinction, and covered with plates of brass, that were taken away when the church was robbed. It also raised coffins, made of congealed sand as hard as stone, wherein persons of note had been laid.

At this time, there was a beadle of this church called William Gall, who in the night time had sifted the ashes of the dead, to get rings and other pieces of gold, whom Dr. Keith, then minister, severely reprov'd for so doing, on a Sunday, before the congregation; and it was observed, that the said beadle never prospered one day after so unchristian an act.

The two bells that hung in this steeple were got down, and preserved by Mr. George Frazer, subprincipal; Kenneth Frazer, mason; and some others; and, when they had brought them to the West door of the church, immediately the steeple fell; and it was a great providence that these men were preserved, and so narrowly escaped. The pulpit, built by the said bishop Stewart, as witness his name on it, was also preserved, being removed some time before the fall of said steeple. The common loft and West end of said church remained safe, as formerly.

Thereafter, Dr. John Keith, then minister of said church, called a meeting of the masters of the college, the heritors, and session, to consider how the East end of said church should be built and repaired. At last it was agreed, that seeing the deceased bishop Scotigal had mortified 2000 merks for the behoof of St. Machar's church, it was resolved upon, that the money should be raised for

that effect. Then, the minister and session gave the money to Mr. George Frazer, subprincipal, to perform the work. He employed six masons at 20s. Scots per diem. He was overseer himself, and the work was completed in six weeks; having stones in abundance, and nothing wanting but lime. They built the walls within the pillars on which the great steeple stood, as may be seen. He that was then master of kirk-work related, that the said subprincipal gained a thousand merks Scots by that bargain; only he gifted a large English bible in folio to the church of St. Machar, as the superplus of bishop Scougal's mortification.

In said new wall are two doors to go into St. John's and bishop Dunbar's isles; as also two windows, one above each door.

#### Of the CROSS of OLD ABERDEEN.

The inhabitants of this ancient city had liberty to erect a cross, conform to the fundamental charter. There was engraven and cut out of stone at the top of this cross on the South and North sides thereof, the picture of the blessed Virgin Mary, which was defaced at the beginning of the Reformation; and below are the armorial-coats of the Kings of Scotland; bishop Dunbar, bishop Stuart, and bishop Gordon, yet to be seen. The crucifix on said cross was cut down in the time of the last troubles, anno 1640; as saith Mr. Spalding in his Books of Annals, who lived in town at that time.

#### Of the SONG-SCHOOL, COUNCIL, and WEIGH-HOUSES, in OLD ABERDEEN.

It is fit to narrate, that of old there was a dyke, which went betwixt the street that goes into Cluny's Port in the chantry, and that as people pass to the bridge of Don; and in the middle of said dyke there was a great draw-well, which was common to said town; and the deceast Mr. John Robertson's close was formerly Sir Alexander Gordon of Cluny's pear-yard, and Borrow Shand was his peatman, who built a little house for himself on the West side of the yard; and the said Cluny got him infested in

faid house and peat-yard. In process of time, houses have been built round about this yard, except to the South, where the said well stands.

About January 10, 1642, John Forbes and Thomas Mercer, baillies in Old Aberdeen, by the tolerance of Dr. Guild, principal of the King's college, who had got a gift of the bishop's lodging from the States, &c. caused masons to throw down the bishop's dove-cote, to build a Song-school where it now stands; and Weigh-House, built on the South side of said draw-well. The said school, council, and weigh-house, are all under one roof. This house is lofted, two rooms whereof are appointed for the musick-school, one laigh and another high; the former properly for accommodating children, who were only taught to read, write, and learn arithmetick; and the latter for those who were taught vocal and instrumental musick; and upon the same flat is a room towards the East, pretty large, called the Council-house, where there is a bench for the magistrates, and a table below it of equal length therewith, with fixed forms round about the same; and a bar, that people might not rudely encroach into that particular part of the room where the bench is fixed; whereon the magistrates sit and determine in matters that shall come before them, according to justice. Above said bench are the King's arms; and below the council-house are the weigh and meal-houses. These rooms are well known. Of old, there was another apartment for the musick-school; and the magistrates kept their courts formerly in the session-house of St. Machar, which was also their council-house. There is also a door betwixt the musick-school and the council-house, for the conveniency of the master and his scholars, when he chooses to go into that room where the council sits.

#### THE NEW TOLBOOTH in OLD ABERDEEN

was built anno 1702, on the South side of said school, by a voluntary contribution of the inhabitants, and other well-inclined people; the expences whereof were upwards of 3000 merks.

The baillies, then, being Alexander Frazer of Powis regent in the King's college, William Baxter, the deceased



James Knight, and Mr. John Robertson, subscribed each of them for 30l. Scots, as their voluntary contribution, to be a good example to others. Mr. William Chrystie, present master of said school, paid for the same effect twelve pounds Scots to Mr. Andrew Aberdeen, then treasurer of Old Aberdeen, and collector of said contributions, for the building of said Tolbooth. Notwithstanding the said baillie Robertson's signing for the same, as said is, yet he protested against the building thereof; alledging, that the said musick-school, council, and weigh-houses, and the new tolbooth, which the magistrates were building, stood all on his ground; as having a right by his wife, Helen Shand, a near relation of the said Borrow Shand; whereupon followed a great debate. At last, this action was brought before the Lords of Session; but the magistrates of the town at that time so managed it, that the said Mr. John Robertson and his wife lost the action, and were ordained, by decret of said lords, to pay of expences to the town of Old Aberdeen four hundred merks of Scots money, which is not yet paid. Then, the debate being ended, the said building was perfected, having three rooms; the lowest for thieves, the next for other prisoners, and the third for the bell and clock.

The bell was placed there anno 1713; which cost by voluntary contribution of the inhabitants of Old Aberdeen, and others that had a kindness for said town, 10l. sterling, having this inscription, *Ad sacra & concilia vocamus. Albertus Gellie fecit, anno 1713.* It is rung at six in the morning and nine at night; besides on sabbaths, weekdays, and other occasions, such as rejoicing, &c. And he that rings it, and waits on the clock, gets yearly from the treasurer six pounds Scots.

The clock, globe for the moon's age, dial-board, and town's arms were all put up, partly by a voluntary contribution from the inhabitants; whereof Mr. William Chrystie aforesaid paid James Hatt, then town treasurer, and collector appointed to gather up the said contribution, ten shillings sterling, and got his receipt therefore; and what the voluntary contribution could not defray as to the necessary charges for said clock, &c. the treasurer paid

paid out of the town's money. The authentick sum was

The magistrates of Old Aberdeen and treasurer there have built at the town's charges, upon the South side of the council and weigh-houses, a conveniency for a flesh-mercate, and covered it with tyles, anno 1723.

#### An account of WEIGHTS and MEASURES.

Anno 1686, In presence of the provost and baillies, there were found in the weigh-house the species following, viz. Four half-stone weights, and four hail ditto; item, three-quarter weights; two-pound, and pound ditto; with a timber balk, and broads; item, seven pecks, with their stroaks. At the same time, the provost and baillies ordained the tacksmen of the weights and customs to buy the number of an hundred iron weights, viz. fifty-pound, and two twenty-five pound weights, with one steel-balk.

Anno 1691, They ordained the treasurer to cause make three new pecks of the former measure, and burn with the town's iron; making in all (with the former seven) ten pecks. This is the inventory at present of the weights and measures of the weigh, or meal-house, and for which every tacksmen of the customs is accountable. But there is no great matter for pecks; because all meal is to be weighed, conform to act of parliament made thereanent anno 1697.

#### Of the two PUBLICK MERCATES.

The town of Old Aberdeen has a liberty for two public mercates, conform to said fundamental charter; the former whereof is called in the public almanacks Skeir Thursday before Pasch. But 'tis wrong so named. It should be called Shrive-Thursday; for shrift, or shriving is auricular confession, which was used in the time of popery, before Easter. Shrift, a Saxon word, from *Scrinium*, a secret cask, the inward breast, *quasi revelare peccata ex intimo scrinio*. The latter is called Luke's Fair, which stands about the middle of October; so named from St. Luke's day. It stood eight days, which is on the 18th of October.

These two mercates in the popish times stood within the chanry, and were great ones. But at the beginning of the Reformation of religion they decayed, by reason of the troubles of the times.

Auricular confession, as aforesaid, is thus defined; viz. Every one in the Romish church is strictly bound, once, or oftener in the year, to come to a priest, and confess his sins to him, and receive his orders for penances and satisfactions, to be performed for the sins he has committed, or the guilt he has contracted; and withal his absolution and advices for the ruling of his conscience, and a solution of his doubts and scruples, &c. Now, it is permitted to every man, for the most part, to choose his own confessor. The Jesuits, therefore, those priests who call themselves the Society of Jesus, being a stirring party, and being both ambitious and anxious to have a great dependence; and as many as they can get under their government and conduct, and at their beck and discretion, set up for being prime casuists, singularly clever in determining about matters of conscience. And knowing very well, that men are generally inclined to sin as securely and at as cheap a rate as they can; and, by consequence, to like those casuists and confessors best, who are ready to allow them the greatest latitudes; 'tis one rule in the politicks of this society to mince sins, and make as few of them mortal, and as many of them venial as they can; and to give those who come to them the smoothest and the easiest resolutions; and in nothing do they make greater stretches, or allow greater liberties, than in the matters of equivocation, they say, It is no sin for a man to use such forms of speech as he very well knows will deceive, or impose upon those he deals with; provided the words he used, by any figure or unusual stretch, may be forced into a true meaning. You will understand this trick best by instances. Suppose, therefore, that a magistrate enquires if Socrates is at home, and he speaks Latin; putting the question, *An Socrates est domi?* Is Socrates at home? Socrates's wife, or his child, or his servant, may very safely answer, *Socrates non est domi*; that is, Socrates is not at home. Why? the word *est* forsooth sometimes, though less usually, signifies



he eats; so that the meaning of the answer is, "Socrates eats not at home." Perhaps 'tis his fasting-day; or he has eaten sufficiently already, and is not just now eating. Pericles, a Grecian general, promised safety to the enemy, provided they would lay aside their iron (*si ferrum deponeverent*); that was their arms, as all the world understood it. They honestly laid aside their arms: but he fell on, to cut them off every man, and yet he kept his faith well enough: Why? because forsooth they had iron buttons in their doublets.

Afterwards, about anno 1664, James Gordon of Seton, then baillie of said city, with the assistance of the other magistrates, reviewed and renewed the said fairs; and ordained the foot-mercate to stand at the cross, and the nolt and horse-mercates on the ground adjacent to said city on the West side, where they yet continue.

Several acts were made against forestallers of the mercates of said city, which were ratified anno 1689, by Mr. George Frazer and James Keith, baillies; with this addition, that ilk person so forestalling shall pay 40s. for the first fault; for the second 3l.; for the third 4l. Scots; and ordained the town's officers to wait on them ilk Thursday's afternoon, and ilk Friday's morning, to apprehend them, and take from them all the commodities so forestalled, and to keep the one-half to themselves, and the other to be disposed of as the magistrates think fit; and the treasurer is ordained to take notice, that the officers do their duty; which if they neglect to do, or connive with any person, they shall pay the fine the guilty person is liable for.

The magistrates of said city, some days before the said mercates, order the drummer to go through the town with the drum, and advertise the haill inhabitants to clean the streets and wynds; and that no person within the town receive uncustomed goods within their houses, nor any loose people, under a penalty.

Item, one of the baillies, with the four quarter-masters with him, are appointed to sit in the council-house, to administer justice, when any debate or controversy happens among the people concerning buying or selling in the said mercates.

Item,

Item, the said magistrates order the treasurer, with two or three persons with him, to go through the town of Old Aberdeen, to sight the merchants weights, measures, and elvans, before said mercates, and see if they be sufficient; and if not, to take them from them, and produce them before the magistrates the next court-day.

The customs of these two mercates, with the petty customs, to which belong a rigg on the East side of the said town, are all yearly roused; and this year, 1723, the customer, or tacksmen, pays for them to the treasurer the sum of *£*2161. said money; and borrow-roads

The inhabitants of said city paid to the bishop yearly of feu-duty 1651. 15s. Scots, which is now paid to the collector of the bishop's rents; for this ancient city was feued out by the bishop of this see, as is said. But the exact sum now paid is 2161. said money; and borrow-roads about it amount to the same.

Several noblemen have been made burgesses in this town. Imprimis, Kenneth lord Kintail, anno 1674. Item, Lord John Elphinston, 1690. Item, George lord Rae, 1693. Item, Robert viscount of Arbuthnot, 1694. Item, Robert, master of Burleigh, ditto. Likewise, many gentlemen of distinction; besides officers of the military.

To this city pertain a Common-moss and Freedom-hill, lying at some distance, beyond the Bridge of Don, to the North. The magistrates of said city have made several acts concerning the regulation of said Moss.

Since the town's court-books are lost, as said is, there cannot be got an account of all the Provosts of Old Aberdeen; but those extant follow; Imprimis, Sir Thomas Gordon of Clunie, anno 1603. Item, Alexander Gordon of ditto, 1606. Item, Sir Alexander Gordon of Bersmore, 1647. Item, Mr. John Scougal, commissary of Aberdeen, 1671. Item, Mr. James Scougal, ditto of ditto, 1683. Item, Colonel John Buchan of Cairnbulg, 1719.

John Gordon, provost of Aberdeen, finding fault with Mr. George Liddel, professor of mathematicks in the Marischal-college, turned him out of his post, and caused affix an edict upon the most patent door of the said college-

gate;

gate, inviting all men to come and dispute for the said Mr. Liddel's post, assuring them of *detur digniori*. But the said Mr. Liddel applied to the King's advocate, who assured him of his post; so that there was no diet appointed for the dispute. One Dr. Thomas Bower came from London to dispute for it; being disappointed, he protested against the magistrates of Aberdeen, for cost, skaith, and damage, &c. Thereafter, he applied to the Scots parliament holden at Edinburgh, anno 1707; and got 40l. fixed upon the town of Aberdeen, and 10l. sterling upon the town of Kirkaldie, to be professor of mathematicks in the King's college of Aberdeen. At that time the magistrates of Aberdeen were seeking a gift of the pennies, and said, They would be content to pay Dr. Bower the said 40l. if the parliament would give them the Old Town, Seatown, and Spital, which was granted them. And so they fixed 40l. sterling on these towns. But the inhabitants of Old Aberdeen complained much for laying such a taxation on them, having never paid pennies formerly. And, to free the inhabitants and brewers of Old Aberdeen from being troubled with New Aberdeen collectors of the pennies, the magistrates of Old Aberdeen, viz. Mr. Alexander Fraser, regent in the King's college; Mr. William Gordon, Kintore, William Baxter, and Alexander Troup, engaged and contracted with the magistrates of New Aberdeen, to pay them yearly the said 40l.; but this contract they made allenarly of themselves, without consent of the town or council of Old Aberdeen. But afterwards, the Old Town brewers suspended them, because Dr. Bower was gone to London, and did not officiate here in the said college as professor of mathematicks. Yet, notwithstanding the aforementioned magistrates of Old Aberdeen, who made this contract with the magistrates of New Aberdeen, without consent aforesaid, dismissed the suspension, and made them liable, by a decret of the Lords of Session, to pay the yearly pennies and expences. At last, anno 1717, Dr. Bower demitted; whereupon the town of New Aberdeen's collectors discharged the magistrates of Old Aberdeen of the said contract and pennies; which they paid yearly to them before the said Dr. Bower's dismissal, July 1719.



In the time of Cromwell's usurpation there was no authority for choosing magistrates in Old Aberdeen; but the town elected any man that would accept; neither was there any, from 1712 to 1719.

Mr. Chalmers, principal of the King's college, intending to go to London the end of August, 1718, some of the inhabitants employed him to get a charter and commission from King George, for choosing of magistrates in Old Aberdeen. The charter and commission were sent down, and the magistrates names inserted therein, viz. David Forbes of Leslie; Mr. John Kerr, regent in the King's college; Alexander Molyson and John Robertson, merchants in Old Aberdeen; whereupon there was a meeting in the council-house of said town, May 27, 1719, for them to accept of said office of magistracy; and accordingly, all of them, except David Forbes of Leslie, accepted; and upon 1st of June thereafter chose members of their council.

This commission cost the town of Old Aberdeen 33*l.* or 34*l.* sterling. Anno 1719, October 2, there was an election for the year to come, and the said baillies were continued; and at the same time they elected colonel John Buchan of Cairnbulg, provost of Old Aberdeen, who qualified and accepted upon 29th of said month.

The merchants of Old Aberdeen, with the money in their box which they had contributed amongst themselves (the annual rents thereof to be employed for the use of decayed merchants and their relicts within said town) bought from Andrew Cassie, writer in Aberdeen, twelve bolls sowing upon the East side of Old Aberdeen, betwixt the lands of Alexander Molyson on the North, and the lands of . . . . . to the South; for which they paid 2000 merks Scots, anno 1720. The same year there happened a great debate between the magistrates of Old Aberdeen and the trades thereof. The said trades had formerly got burgher's-tickets after that form to be merchants and tradesmen in said town; but the magistrates challenged this, and said it was not practicable; and that they had brought in that custom in the time of Oliver's usurpation. This debate continued for some; at last it was agreed, that the said tradesmen, that had got their burghers-tickets after that

that form to be merchants and tradesmen within the town of Old Aberdeen, might continue so during life; but their sons must enter only as tradesmen, and pay their composition, which is 10 merks; but if they incline to be merchants, they must pay the merchant's composition, which is 20l. Scots money.

Anno 1720, the magistrates of Old Aberdeen fened the rector of Monymusk's gleib and yard from the director of the hospital in said town, and pay him yearly the rent thereof, which is 18l. Scots; that the inhabitants in said town may have passage that way to the river Don, for washing, &c.

Anno 1723, June 28, there was a great fire raised accidentally upon the West side of said town, which burnt two tenements of houses belonging to two several heritors, viz. the heirs of the deceast James Hervie, sometime merchant in Old Aberdeen, and the deceast Andrew Wilson, sometime there.

This fire, the drought being very great, would have consumed more houses in this town, had not a water-work been brought from Aberdeen, which very much contributed for quenching it. The South-West tenement, which is burnt, pertains to William Wilson, now in Ireland, son to the afore said Andrew Wilson; and the North-West tenement belongs to George Black, merchant in Old Meldrum, who married Jean, a daughter of the said James Hervie.

Of the WYNDs on the East side of Old Aberdeen.

*Imprimis.* Reid's Wynd, in the end of the town, as people pass to the bridge of Don, lying upon the East side of the street; so called from a man of that name, who lived sometime there. From it there was a broad green way to the links, for the use of the clergy who lived in the chanry and chaplain's chambers.

Anno 1658, March 28, it was ordained by the baillies in Old Aberdeen, that neither man, woman, horse, or foot, should pass down that road called Reid's road, lying in the East side of this town, in prejudice of John Cassie, heritor thereof, after the date hereof; ilk horse, man, woman,

man, or child, under the pain of 6s. 8d. Scots; and the feoman 3s. 4d. to be paid by them to the town's use. The causeway of this Wynd was lately repaired. Near it is the High-street, leading to the bridge of Don.

In the popish times there was a channel made through the land aforesaid, for conveying the water to the Tyle-Burn, which came to this place from the town to the town; but after the Reformation this channel being filled up, the water stank, and made the way for passengers uneasy in the winter-time; therefore, anno 1636, the magistrates of Old Aberdeen statuted and ordained, that the said way in the Old-Town end shall be causewayed with stones, which was done by a contribution of the inhabitants. Notwithstanding of this new causeway, the water having no passage through the land as formerly, stagnated, and became a deep ditch on every side, for several years; which was dangerous for man and horse in the night, and for children in the day-time; and the corruption of the water produced a very bad scent and smell to the people who lived in the North side of the town. But anno 1723, the magistrates, treasurer, and council of Old Aberdeen, taking things to their consideration, and to remove said water employed workmen, who have filled up the ditches with sand; and brought causewayers from Aberdeen, who have laid a good new causeway in place of the former; as also, they have got stones out of the church-yard of St. Machar, and caused build therewith a dyke on each side of this causeway, and made a ditch through the land, for conveying the water to the Tyle-burn, which is built on every side with stones taken from said yard. The magistrates and treasurer of the town are much commended for this good work; which is partly done by a contribution of the inhabitants of the said town.

The next is called Beverly's Wynd, from a man of that name, who was heritor of that tenement now possessed by George Aberdein, and was taken off to be a common wynd for the town's use, lying betwixt the tenement of George Aberdein and that of Andrew Dyce, formerly Robert Low's; and the said Beverley got no payment for the liberty of said wynd from the magistrates and town-council.



The third is Wagril's wynd, so callit from a man of that name, who was heritor of that lodging now possessed by Mrs. Clarke, which he sold to the township of Old Aberdeen, and got for it fourscore merks. The said wynd lies betwixt Mrs. Clarke's and Baillie Baxter's tenements.

Anno 1680, November 16, Mr. James Scougal and Mr. John Buchan, baillies, John Ross, janitor in the King's college, presented a supplication to the said baillies, declaring, That the town should buy the South dyke of Wagril's wynd; and seeing he hath built the same himself, by reason of the town's delay, desired, that masons might sight the same, and consider what expences it hath cost him in building said dyke, which was done accordingly; and then the treasurer was ordered by the said baillies to pay the said John Ross twenty six dollars at Martinmas 1681, for building the aforesaid dyke. The said wynd was causewayed anno 1666.

The fourth was called Bartlet's Wynd, from a man of that name who lived there. It lies betwixt James Panton's tenement to the North, which formerly belonged to the heirs of the deceased Mr. William Smith, and a lodging pertaining to the college on the South side, being properly the principal of the college of his house by virtue of his office. This wynd was causewayed anno 1666.

#### Of the WYNDS on the West side of the town.

When Sir Alexander Gordon of Cluny built his yard-dyke in the chanry, he allowed the inhabitants of Old Aberdeen as much ground as would be a wynd, for their passing and repassing, called Cluny's or the Lock Wynd.

Anno 1636, this wynd was causewayed as far as George Cumming's yard, by a contribution from the inhabitants.

The second is Douglas's Wynd, so called from one of that name who lived there, and had a tenement beside it. It lies betwixt Robert Milne book-binder his tenement to the North, and the deceased John Gray's tenement to the South.

Anno 1668, it was statuted and ordained by the magistrates of said town, that the treasurer should cause

causeway the said wynd. Also this year the said magistrates ordered the treasurer to cause build the causeway at the back of William Lind's barn, which lately pertained to the deceast James Fiddes, and now to John Bothwell, farmer, in the chanry.

The third is the College Wynd lying betwixt Dr. Urquhart's garden dyke to the South, and James Pantons tenement, which lately pertained to the heirs of the deceast George Laing, some time oeconomist in the King's college, to the North. The causeway of this Wynd was lately repaired.

Alexander Frazer of Powis, subprincipal of said college, bought from William Anderson an house on the West side of the street, almost opposite to the college gate, with a little yard, and some back short riggs at the end thereof; all the rest of the ground was deep sinking mire, and paid him for them 750l. Scots; he hath drained said mire, and built two great and three lesser houses towards the street, and twelve houses on the side of Powis's Burn, and made out four yards planted with trees round about their dykes. He also bought the stones and timber of Kincaiden's lodging (as is said) from the deceast James Sandilands of Grabston, and therewith built a large kiln and malt-barn in one of the said yards, at the West end of which is the sand-hill, which he hath enclosed by an earth dyke, and planted with firs and other trees, October 30. 1718. The biggest house aforesaid was accidentally burnt November, 1696, by the carelessness of Mr. George Skene regent in said college his servants, which the said Powis rebuilt and repaired. The said houses and yards pay him yearly upwards of 500 merks.

This is the only best improved ground about the town; Peter Aberdein built a house upon the East side of the street near the cross, anno 1719. This tenement formerly pertained to Mr. Alexander Spalding, advocate, and some time commissary clerk-depute of Old Aberdeen, where he had a good lodging, well slated, with a timber fore-stairs but afterwards became ruinous, and at last was demolished to build the yard-dyke, and to help to build the kiln and malt-barn in the end of said yard; which were built by the deceast James Gordon of Seaton.

Anno 1722, Bailie Troup's house on the West side of the street (which had formerly a plateform roof, and did not keep out rain) he hath built up the gavel-walls thereof, given it a new roof above the plateform, and covered it with tyles, which is a convenient dwelling-house. Alexander Molyson, merchant, in the North end of said city, purchased the North-East tower of the chaplain's chambers in the chanry, which he repaired, and the half of the bishop's dovecot green. He hath built a new yard dyke, at the back of the North side of the said chaplain's chambers, anno 1714; and planted on the other side of said dyke 29 trees, anno 1719, which were given out of the minister's yard of St. Machar; as also the bishop's dovecote green round about with young trees, November 1722.

There are several houses built and repaired, besides these, within said town.

The inhabitants of Old Aberdeen are tied to no mill, except two persons that bound themselves to Gordon's mill, and some few roods that were formerly thereto tied.

#### List of the MASTERS of the MUSICK-SCHOOL.

In bishop Elphinston's time, the master of said school in Old Aberdeen was John Malisons; and none were esteemed good musicians who were not bred with him who was master of said school. After the Reformation there was no certain account, for the cause above-written. Those who are made masters thereof undergoe a trial by competition (*et detur digniori*), and that before expert musicians, as judges in reading, writing, arithmetick, vocal and instrumental musick; in presence of the principal and masters of the college, the ministers, and magistrates of the town, as also the conveener and deacons of trades. And he who is found best qualified, is admitted to be master of said school, reader, and precentor in the cathedral church, and sessions clerk.

Mr. Gilbert Ross was first master, anno 1636. Alexander Wilguise, 1643. William Hay, 1658, whose son Mr. William Hay succeeded him, who afterwards was minister at Perth, whence he was translated to be bishop of Murray; after him, his brother Mr. George Hay, anno



after him, William Logan; after him, Alexander Cooper; after him, Mr. William Cumming, anno 1691, who demitted, having got a call to Elgin, the place of his nativity, as is recorded in the kirk-session-register of discipline, anno 1696, July 2, by his own answer to Mr. Thomas Ramsay, then moderator of the kirk-session.

Here follows an exact and faithful account of the admission and entry of Mr. William Chrystie, anno 1724 (said year present master), the aforesaid Mr. William Cumming's immediate successor, viz.

Anno 1696, July 2, Mr. Thomas Ramsay aforesaid, one of the ministers of the gospel at Aberdeen (this church then vacant) being moderator of a meeting of the gentlemen and heritors, masters of the college, &c. viz. James Gordon of Seaton, Mr. John Gordon, younger, of ditto, heritors; Dr. George Middleton, principal; Mr. George Fraser, subprincipal; Mr. Alexander Fraser, regent; and Mr. Alexander Gordon, humanist, in the King's college; George Cruickshank, master of Kirk-work; James Thomson, Duncan Cassie, and William Smith, elders of the Kirk-session of Old Aberdeen. The aforesaid Mr. William Cumming being interrogated by the said moderator in presence of the aforementioned gentlemen of the meeting (the same having been constituted, as is usual, by prayer) whether he was to remove from his place? answered, that he had received a call from Elgin, his native place, and had embraced the same, and therefore thought fit to give them a timeous advertisement, that they might provide for one against Lammas next, at which time he was to remove. The said day it was thought fit to consider of a proper person who should succeed as master of said school, &c. And the question being put, there were four named, viz. Mr. William Smith, Mr. William Chrystie, Mr. John Sinclair, and Thomas Gordon. But to shun and evite division or dissention, the meeting unanimously agreed that there should be a publick competition, and the best qualified should carry it. Mean while it was voted, whether Mr. William Smith should be listed with the competitors, or admitted to a competition, in regard he kept a publick school, and was known to be disaffected to the government; it

It was left undetermined till next meeting, which the said moderator was to call when convenient.

July 14, 1696, after prayer, Sed. Mr. Thomas Ramsay, moderator; Mr. Inglish, Mr. Sterling, Mr. Spalding, Mr. — Black, minister, George Cruickshank, master of kirk-work and bridge-works of Aberdeen, James Bailie, master of mortifications there; Mr. John Gordon, younger, of Seaton, Mr. John Robertson, heritors; Dr. George Middleton, principal, Mr. George Frazer, sub-principal; Mr. Alexander Frazer, regent; James Thomson, Duncan Cassie, and Alexander Taylor, elders of the Kirk-session; together with the conveyer and deacons of the trades; Alexander Cooper, Thomas Scott, and William Cumming afore said, being appointed examiners. Mr. William Smith being called, it was answered he was advertised, but refused to come, because he had not had timeous advertisement. Upon which it was agreed to, that there should be no more mention of him, since he was called and refused to compear. Thomas Gordon being called compeared, and having undergone a trial in his skill of musick both vocal and instrumental, wherewith the meeting not being well satisfied, it was objected, why should a man not qualified be imposed upon them, since they could be better served besides, viz. by Mr. William Smith? It was answered, that he had extended himself, since he refused to compear when called; and they were to have no more to do with him in that affair. Overtured, since the town were not willing to accept of Mr. Gordon for the musick-school, and the presbytery would not allow of Mr. Smith to be clerk to the session; for peace and unity sake, and that the place might not be disappointed, there might be a third brought in that might give satisfaction to both parties. It being asked, if they knew any who might give that satisfaction? It was answered, Mr. William Chrystie, who was one of those listed, and against whom there was nothing to object; but he not being upon the place, it was enquired how soon he might be here? It was answered, once this week. Then it was unanimously agreed to delay the affair till he should come, and be tried and examined in his skill of musick,

&c. and if found as well qualified as Mr. Gordon, and nothing to object as to his life and conversation, &c. he should be accepted; but this always without prejudice to the said Thomas Gordon; if he can make his friends in the town.

August 3, 1996, after prayer, Sedr. Mr. Thomas Ramsay, moderator; Mr. James Osborn, Mr. David Brown, ministers; George Cruikshank, master of the kirk and bridge-works of Aberdeen; Mr. Baillie, master of mortifications there; Mr. John Gordon, younger, of Seaton, William Gordon of Old Govil, heritors; Dr. George Middleton, principal; Mr. George Frazer, subprincipal; Mr. Alexander Frazer, regent; Mr. Alexander Frazer, regent; Mr. Alexander Gordon, humanist; Patrick Sandilands of Gordon's mill, James Thomson, Alexander Taylor, and William Smith, elders.

The meeting finds that there were several desirous of a competition for the school, especially Mr. John Sinclair being upon the place, which was agreed to.

Mr. William Chrystie being called, compeared; and it being asked, if there were any present that had any thing to object against him, why he might not be allowed to compete? answer, no objection.

Thomas Gordon being called, compeared; it was objected that he had passed trial already; yet it was thought fit to allow him the benefit of a competition.

Mr. John Sinclair being called, compeared; but it was objected that he had some time past raised such disorder and confusion in the church, and shewn himself opposite to the government; that however qualified, they would not accept of him for their precentor or session-clerk.

William Carneggy being called, compeared, and was permitted to act his part with the rest.

The competitors being desired to remove, Mr. Gilbert Leslie, Alexander Cooper, William Cumming, and Thomas Scott were appointed examiners. It was thought fit to take trial of them one by one.

Mr. William Chrystie was called, and compearing, was examined in the theory and practice of musick, &c.

Thomas Gordon being called, compeared, and was likewise tried on the theory and practice of musick, &c.

William



William Carneggy being called, appeared, and was likewise examined of his skill in musick, &c.

The competitors being removed, and the judgment of the examiners required; they answered in one voice, that they were well satisfied with them all, save William Carneggy, who was not so good for the instrumental part of musick. It was voted therefore which of them should be chosen; and Mr. William Chrystie carried the vote by 13 more than any of the rest; which done, they were all called in, and Mr. William Chrystie was admitted, and received to be master of the musick-school in Old Aberdeen, precentor and session-clerk; yet, upon condition that he should bring with him a sufficient testimony of his behaviour and conversation; of his being well affected to the government both of church and state from the prebendary, at which he presently resided; which failing, Thomas Gordon is to be preferred, upon the same condition, of a sufficient testimony, &c.

August 13, 1696, after prayer, Sed<sup>r</sup>, Mr. James English, moderator, *pro tempore*, Baillie Thomson, Duncan Cassie, Alexander Taylor and William Smith, elders. The which day, the moderator signified to the session that Mr. William Chrystie had produced before the presbytery, Wednesday last by-past, being 26th August current, the said presbytery sitting in the session-house within the new church, his certificates from the presbytery of Perth; which having read and considered, the reverend presbytery of Aberdeen approved of; and further appointed Mr. Arthur Shepherd, their clerk, to give the said Mr. Chrystie an extract thereanent, which being read this day according to the moderator and sessions, he was by them admitted, and received to be precentor and session-clerk in the church of Old Machar; and to the emoluments of the said charge they gave him a right and title, as Alexander Cooper and Mr. William Cumming his two immediate predecessors had, and appointed his salary, which being forty pounds Scots yearly, should continue to him from Lammas 1696, to be paid by the church treasurer yearly, termly, or quarterly, as the said Mr. William Chrystie pleases to demand; whom the moderator exhorted to be faithful

faithful and diligent in all the duties of his place and charge; and who promised to be so; and accordingly gave his oath *de fidei*. The moderator recommended to the clerk to get the registers from Duncan Cassie, and extract a list of the delinquents, seeing there hath been no session since, the members of the session cannot condescend upon the order of them at present.

September 13, 1696, Report of the bishops being got up, &c. Vid. respective Sederunts in the session-book anent said affair.

The master has for his salary from the kirk-session, as being reader, precentor, and session-clerk 53*l*. 6*s*. 1*d*. Scots yearly, besides the ordinary casualties, as baptisms, burials, and marriages; being 6*d*. for each baptism and burial in the church-yard; in the church or isles half a crown for persons within the town or parish of Old Machar, but those without the parish pay one-third more for keeping the register. For contracts of marriages the clerk gets half a crown, except tradesmen, who pay only two shillings sterling, and four-pence for their baptisms and burials; because they pay him yearly 24*l*. Scots as another part of his salary, for the benefit of the mortcloths, granted them by him; which privilege they had by bishop —, in favours of the master of the musick-school, provided they pay him yearly 20*l*. Scots; which was augmented 4*l*. to Alexander Cooper and his successors in office. Besides he hath 40*l*. Scots paid him yearly by the town's treasurer, in name and behalf of the magistrates thereof, by and attour the benefit of the school, &c.

#### A List of some Town's CLERKS.

[No full account for the cause aforesaid.]

Imprimis. Mr. Arthur Watt, notar-publick. Item, William Watt, ditto. Item, Thomas Leslie, ditto. Item, Alexander Sandison, ditto. Item, Mr. John Johnston, ditto. Item, George Adam, ditto. Item, Adam Thomson, in this year 1724.

The clerk hath from this town yearly 30*l*. Scots; from the trades 20*l*.; also, of sentence money for every decret six-pence and as much for extracting thereof, and if it happen

happen to be large one shilling sterling; with other casualties.

### Of the HAND-BELL.

Anno 1692, the magistrates of Old Aberdeen made great enquiry to whom the present hand-bell belonged, and at last were informed that it belonged to the town, being gifted by the deceast John Ross, sometime janitor in the King's college. Therefore, the magistrates decerned, that they and their successors in office have the only right to admit any man they think fit to be bellman in said city, and to employ the casualties thereto belonging.

But the said magistrates, anno 1702, March 1, judicially, in the presence of Thomas Thomson of Cocklaw, minister in Old Aberdeen, and the reverend members of said kirk-session, renounce all title and right to said hand-bell, in favour of said session.

An exact and faithful account of what they did in said affair, from the records of said session.

Anno 1702, March 1, in presence of the said Thomas Thomson, minister; James Thomson, Duncan Cassie, William Smith, and John Thorn, elders; Mr. Alexander Frazer, William Baxter, James Knight, and Mr. John Robertson, present magistrates. The said day the whole Sederunt of the session judicially and unanimously renounced for themselves, and in the name and behalf of their successors in office, viz. baillies in Old Aberdeen, all or any right whatsoever they or their successors (as is said) have, or can have, or pretend to, as to said bell; which right or title the said baillies renounced in favours of the church; and that not only in their own name and successors in office, but likewise in name of the town and whole community of Old Aberdeen; and recommended to the minister kirk-session to dispose thereof as they think fit, for the benefit of the church. And the said magistrates judicially declare, that at their next council they should make an act thereanent; that the hand-bell which goeth before interments doth entirely belong to the church; and that they shall rescind all former acts as to said bell, in prejudice of the church of Old Machar; seeing it is abundantly



dantly known; that the church and none else, have been always in use thereof; and that since any of the age do remember. Vid. respective of kirk-session.

**Of the DRUMMER, and his dues.**

He is ordered by the magistrates to go through the town, beating his drum, every morning at five o'clock, and at eight hours at night; as also to obey their commands on other occasions; for which he hath yearly a salary, viz. a crown out the conveener's box, and half a crown out of every trade's box, with four shillings Scots yearly from house-holders, being a penny quarterly, or yearly, as he thinks most convenient.

**An account of the THREE BELLS, with their inscriptions, which belonged to said Cathedral since the Reformation.**

1. Maxima Campana.

1. The largest bell.

“Michael Burgerhuyes me fecit, ad sacros coetus convocandos. Soli Deo gloria.”

“In summa arce ædis divi Macharii locandam curavit dominus Patricius Forbes episcopus Aberdonensis, et senatus, ecclesiasticus veteris Aberdoniæ, cal. Jan. 1622.”

“Michael Burgerhuyes made this for conveying the clergy. To God alone be glory.”

“Mr. Patrick Forbes bishop of Aberdeen, and the ecclesiastical senate of Old Aberdeen, took care to place this bell in the highest steeple of St. Machar's church, Jan. 1622.”

This is on the bell which is riven, and not used.

2. Campana cathedr. ecclesiastic. Aberdonen.

“Florentè domino Georgio M. D. episcopo, anno 1688, Georgius Kilgour fecit. Sabbata pango, solemnè clango, funera plango.”

3. “Michael Burgerhuyes fecit me, 1618.

“Soli Deo gloria.”

2. The bell of the cathedral church of Aberdeen.

“George Kilgour made it in the time of George M. D. bishop, anno 1686. This is toll'd for Sabbaths, solemn meetings, and funerals.

3. “Michael Burgerhuyes made this bell, 1618.

“To God alone be glory.”

This

This is the little bell which hangs beside the clock in the South lesser steeple.

The first and second are they which hung in the great steeple, and were preserved; the second is that which hangs now beside the little bell.

Since the Reformation there is an excellent clock placed in the South lesser steeple; and a sun-dial (as is said) above the porch of said church.

Adam Balluden, bishop of Dunblane, was translated to be bishop of Aberdeen about anno 1635, where he continued till he was thrust out by the covenanters. He retired to England, where he died in a short time. His house in Old Aberdeen for magnificence in all things like a palace, was plundered by a regiment of covenanters.

Dr. Guild, one of the ministers of Aberdeen, went away to Holland, when the rest of the doctors fled on account of the covenant, but came home and joined with the covenanters, taking it with limitations; but being chosen principal of the King's college, anno 1640, August 18, *ad vitam aut culpam*, he took the covenant without limitation.

Anno 1642, in the beginning of January, he violently broke down the insight and plenishing within the bishop's house, which was left undestroyed by the said regiment of covenanters; such as beds, boards, &c. and caused transport them down to the college, to plenish the chambers thereof.

He caused cut down the great joists, tarr the roofalls of the whole office-houses; viz. bake-house, brew-house, biars, and stables, and roofall chambers; and carry roof and slates away to build a song-school, and slate it in Berold Innes's closs; but was not made use of.

He also took away the pavement-stones of the bishop's hall, and payed the common-school of the college therewith; having got a gift of the bishop's manse, yard, and ward from a committee of the kirk and estates.

Afterwards the said bishop's lodgings were demolished by the English usurpers, with the Northside of his garden-dyke, to build the fortification of the castle-hill at Aberdeen. When they were taking up the stones out of the bishop's

bishop's well, some of them were killed by the ground closing upon them; and there they remain in the bottom of the said well to this day, as old men relate for a certainty. The remainder was taken to help to build the new work of the college.

About January 10, 1642, the baillies of Old Aberdeen, by the tolerance of the said Dr. Guild, caused masons to throw down the bishop's dove-cote, to build a song-school, where now it stands, as Spalding in his annals relates.

Moreover, upon August 5, 1640, the earl of Seaforth, the master of Forbes, Mr. John Adamson, principal of the college of Edinburgh, and the said Dr. Guild with diverse others, held a committee in the king's college; and thereafter came to St. Machar's church, and caused our blessed Lord Jesus's arms to be hewn out of the front of the pulpit; and to take down the portrait of the blessed Virgin Mary, and her dear son Jesus in her arms; which had stood (since the upputing thereof in curious work under the ceiling at the West end of the pend, whereon the great steeple stood) unmoved till then; and gave orders to colonel . . . master of Forbes, to see this done, which he with all diligence obeyed. And besides, where there were any crucifixes set in honest mens' glass windows, he caused pull them out; and a mason struck out Christ's arms in hewn work, on each end of bishop Dunbar's tomb; and likewise chesel'd out the name of Jesus (drawn cypher-ways, I. H. S. that is, Jesus Hominum Salvator) of the timber-work on foreside of St. Machar's isle, now called bishop Scougal's, opposite to the consistory-door; and the crucifix on the old town cross was turned down.

Anno 1642, December 16, the said Dr. Guild and Mr. William Strachan, minister of said church, entered William Charles, wright in Old Aberdeen, to take down the high altar, standing upon the East wall of bishop Gavin Dunbar's isle, almost as high as the cieling thereof, curiously wrought of fine wainscot; for within Scotland there was not a better piece of work. The workman would not lay his hand to it to take it down, till the said Mr. William Strachan put his fist; and then the work

These were probably the instrument of the passion on shields.

was



was begun. And in down-taking one of the three timber-crowns, which they thought to have preserved unbroken, it fell suddenly upon the king's great ladder, and broke it in three pieces, and itself in great pieces, and some of the pavement with the weight thereof; but the people were all safe.

The said Mr. Strachan devised a loft for the ease of the people at sermon, in the West end of the church; which took away the statelier shew and sight of the body of the whole church; and with the back of the altar and ornaments thereof, he decored the fore and back sides of said loft. This was done without the consent of the old town session or the brethren. This altar was an excellent piece of workmanship, having three crowns uppermost, and other kinds of crowns beneath, well carved, with golden knaps, now on said loft.

There were 2000 merks left by Dr. Scroggy in the kirk-box, wherewith the said Mr. William Strachan slated the kirk, toofalls, steeple, and bishop Gavin Dunbar's isle, and cast lime into that part where the back of said altar stood, that it might not be known, June 1645. The said Mr. Strachan at his own hand, without right or title, caused tradesmen pull down the stately roof of the bishop's hall, to be timber for the North isle of said church; and Dr. Guild as aforesaid took away the slates thereof for the use of the college.

#### An account of the RENT which pertained to the said Church.

This church had of old a great yearly rent belonging to it, and the clergy that ministered in it; the most of which now pertains to the King's college, and the ministers of said church; and of the rest there is no certain account. Bishop Scougal mortified 2000 merks Scots money to it, which was taken to rebuild the East end thereof, as said is. It has now the annuities which the said Walter Robertson disposed back to said church, which are contained in the rights thereof, the most of which are become in desuetude, or out of use.

But Mr. Mitchel, present minister, anno 1725, summoned many persons in New and Old Aberdeen and else-

where before the lords of session anent the said annuities, &c. It hath likewise its desk-mail; which will be about 50*l*. Scots; as also the burial-lairs in the church, yard, and isles; all which are little enough to support the fabric of the cathedral. It hath now only two beadle*s*, who get each of them twenty merks Scots from the session yearly; and gratuities from persons to whom the desks pertain.

There was a beadle of this church called George Kilgoar, a notar-publick, who solicited bishop Scougal to make him sacrist of St. Machar's church. The bishop, being a well-natured and peaceable man, consented to it; but it seems he had no thought that the sacrist*s* of said church were always church-men and in holy orders; and granted him a charter for being sacrist, signed by himself, the dean and chapter, which I have seen.

The holy water stone, which stood in the chancel, &c. is yet lying in bishop Scougal's isle.

There is the effigies of some great man of the chapter cut out of stone *ad longum*, lying in the north wall of the session-house; but it is not well known what he has been, the inscription being obliterated; yet the greatest part thereof follows, viz.

"Hic jacet honorabilis  
vir, Mr. Walterus . . . . .  
qui donavit xx *l*.  
annuatim capellanis in choro  
pro missa in sexta feria cele-  
branda; qui obiit . . . . .  
die Julii . . . . .  
anime propitiatur  
Deus. Amen."

"Here lies an honourable  
man, Mr. Walter . . . . .  
who gifted to the  
chaplains in the quire 20*l*.  
yearly, for celebrating mass  
every week-day; who died  
day  
of July . . . . . God be  
merciful to his soul. Amen."

There is no inscription or date upon St. Machar's church except that on the West side of the buttrage, which stands on the South end of bishop Dunbar's isle; viz. Thomas the son of Thomas French, master-mason, who built the bridge of Dee, and this isle, is interred at the foot hereof, who died anno 1530.

Dr. John Keith, minister, caused build, and repaired the church-yard dykes some time before the Revolution. It

hath

hath four entries or gates. James Marnock, mason, and George Cristal, wright, pointed the two lesser steeples anno 1704; which had not till then been pointed since the Reformation, as old men declare.

Mr. Mitchell, now minister, caused repair the South toofofall of said church, anno 1720; which cost upwards of 1200 merks. Anno 1722, he caused plaister and wash with shell-lime the walls of said church, which was of expences 325l. Scots money.

The breadth of the church as it now stands, anno 1725, is 64½ feet 2 inches; and the length 135 feet 3 inches within walls.

The churchmen's lands in the chanry paid no cefs till anno 1690; nor from 1256, when bishop Ramsay freed them thereof, as is said. But the masters of the college being titulars of St. Machar's parish tithes, allocated tithes upon the church lands of said chanry that were not in yards anno 1722; and caused the heritors or tenants pay for five years backwards, viz. from anno 1716, when Mr. Mitchell got his direction of augmentation. They pay now as follows; viz. Imprimis, Lewis Gordon of Kilmundy for Methlick's gleib or tail lying at the end of his yard, two pecks of bear. Item, the tail of the parson of Oyne, two ditto. Item, the tail of the parson of Rain, Kinkell's, and the chaplain of Westhall's gleib, thirteen pecks of bear. Item, the parson of Kincairden's and Cruden's gleib, one boll and 15 pecks ditto. Item, Clatt's and Mortlach's gleibs, ten merks Scots. Item, the bishop's dovecote-green, now Alexander Molyson's, six merks Scots.

These tithes, which were free for the space of 466 years, are payable now to Mr. William Smith, second minister.

Upon the West side of the Kettle-hills of old there were terras-walks, for the ease and conveniency of the canon-regulars that lived in the chanry, which are now tilled and made corn-ground. The first that laboured or tilled them was Alexander Gordon of Kinguidy, a Roman catholic, who lived some time in the chanry.

The channel for conveying the water in the chanry which comes from a fountain at the end of the fields belonging



longing to Cottown, was done by the canons aforesaid, upwards of 200 years ago.

The said hill of Tilliedron was artificially built by king Robert Bruce's soldiers, as men acquainted with antiquities relate; which seems to have been designed for a watch-guard, for the use of his army when they lay here; and thereafter the clergy who lived in the chanry kept a watch or guard on it in troublesome times, that they might not be surprized suddenly by their enemies.

Anno 1725, in said church-yard were many trees planted; first, a row on each side of the causeway from the high stile to the church port. Secondly, there is a walk at the back of the church to the chaplain's stile, and planted on every side with trees. Thirdly, at the South and West dykes of said yard are trees planted where they were wanting, and had not been planted; which in a few years will be a decorement to the church-yard.

In that piece of ground at the end of the dean's gleib gifted by the bishop of Aberdeen to dean Robert Erskine, who fued it out to the predecessors of John Nicol, there are four dwelling-houses anno 1725, which pay a merk of annuity, and 5s. 4d. of fue.

An account of the Bishop of Aberdeen's chapter, since the Reformation.

The principal of the college is dean. The parson of Auchterless chanter. The parson of Raine, archdeacon. The parson of Birse, chancellor. The parson of Daviot, treasurer. The parson of Kincardine Oneil. The rector of Monymusk. The parson of Belhelvie. The parson of Banchory Devenick. The parson of Logie-Buchan. The parson of Clatt. The parson of Methlick. The parson of Invernochkie. The parson of Cauldstane. The parson of Oyne. The parson of Cruden. The parson of Tillienestle. The parson of Forbes. The parson of Philorth. The parson of Lonmay. The prebendary of Old Deer. The prebendary of Ellon.

Account of the dues for BURIAL-LAIRS within the Church, Yard, and Isles; and ringing the Bells at Interments,

First, Persons within the town of Old Aberdeen and parish

parish of St. Machar, who employ the bells to be rung at interments, pay ten merks; strangers 10l. Scots; but if these strangers reside in the town or parish, only ten merks. Second. Persons within the town or parish above 15 years, for their burials within the church or isles twenty merks; for those under that age ten merks; and those carried by one man five merks Scots. Third. Strangers not residing within the town or parish for their burials within the church or isles above 15 years 20l.; those under that age 10l.; those carried by one man 5l. Scots. But if the strangers reside in the town or parish, they pay as the parishioners, and the same dues the session-clerk and the beadle. Fourth. Burials of parishioners above 15 years in the church-yard two merks; and those carried by one man half a merk; and all strangers a third part more conform. All pensioners are buried gratis.

#### Dues to the SESSION-CLERK and BEADLES.

First. For baptisms 10d.— 6d. to the clerk, and the rest to the beadle. The incorporate tradesmen 8d.; half to the clerk, and the rest to the beadle. Second. To the clerk for proclamation of banns of matrimony, half a crown from a burgher; 2s. sterling from a tradesmen; and half a merk to the beadle. Third. Burials within the church and isles; to the clerk, for parishioners, half a crown; for strangers, 40s. Scots; to the beadle for parishioners 40s. Scots; and for strangers four merks Scots. And within the church-yard, to the clerk, for parishioners, 14s.; and for strangers 18s. 8d. Scots; and as much to the beadle. Each party to be contracted consigns a crown, and must find caution. The stocked money belonging to the church for the poor's use, anno 1716, was only four hundred pounds Scots.

#### Of ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS.

Every bishop hath under him an official or commissary, who is judge of the spiritual-court within his diocese. Unto this court are referred matters of testaments, bastardy, divorce, tithes, perjury, &c. and many civil cases. It sits in the months of November, December, January, February, June, and July.

COMMISSARIES OF SCOTLAND. Sir David Falconer of Glenfarquhar, Henry Fowlis, James Akenhead, John Wishart, Commiss. of Edinb. John Lindsay, official of St. Andrew's; Sir William Fleming, official of Glasgow; John Stewart, commissary of Dunkeld; John Scougal, commissary of Aberdeen; Alexander M'Kenzie, official of Murray; George Paterson, commissary of Ross; James Strachan, commissary of Brechin; James Innes, official of Caithness; ———— Monro, commissary of ————; William Scrowgy, commissary of Argyle. The officials of Dumblane, Galloway, Orkney, the Isles.

Having treated of the succession of the bishops in their several sees, let us take a short view of the several courts subordinate to them, wherein is exercised ecclesiastical discipline. The first and lowest which is in every parish, is called the session. It consists of the chief and most grave men of the parish, who are termed elders and deacons.

In this small court, whereof the minister is president, all fornicators, adulterers, blasphemers, swearers, profaners of the Lord's day, &c. are convened, and put to make public confession of their sins, and profession of their repentance, according to the degree or heinousness of them. For fornication they make publick confession in the church three several Lord's days, in the last of which they receive absolution.

For an adultery they make their profession of repentance for half an year every Lord's day; and for six Lord's days they stand in sackcloth at the church, half an hour before morning prayers; and then, in the end, they receive absolution. And for other faults they do penance according to their several degrees.

The deacon's office is to collect the money for the use of the poor; to delate delinquents, &c.; and that of the elder is to be careful of the fabrick of the church; to assist in the censuring of scandalous persons; and to wait on the minister at the celebration of the Lord's Supper, &c. This court sitteth once a week.

The number of the parishes in Scotland is uncertain, but may be reckoned to be about a thousand.

The next court is called the presbytery, consisting of 12 or 20 ministers, more or less; that sits once in two or three

three



three weeks. The moderator or president thereof is chosen by the bishop. In this court are discussed appeals from session, and other difficult cases. Here are convened all those who refuse to submit to church discipline, and all such as apostatize to popery or quakerism, who, if they remain obstinate, are prosecuted with the censures of the church. Here also all such as enter into holy orders are examined, and an account taken of their learning and other qualifications, in a course of many trials; as making homilies, sermons, and common places, which hold two or three months; and then they are returned to the bishop well qualified, who upon that proceeds to ordain them.

PRESBYTERIES of Dunce, Chirnside, Kelfoe, Ersilton, Jedburgh, Melrofs, Perth, Dunkeld, Auchterardor, Peeblis, Linlithgow, Dunbar, Haddington, Dalkeith, Edinburgh, Striviling, Dumblane, Dumfreis, Penpont, Lochmabene, Middlebie, Wigton, Kircubright, Stranraer, Ayr, Irwing, Pasley, Dumbarton, Glasgöw, Hamilton, Lanerk, Biggar, Dunnune, Kinloch, Innerary, Kilmoir, Skye, St. Andrew's, Kirkaldy, Cowper, Dumfermling, Meegle, Dundee, Arbroath, Forfar, Brechin, Mernis, Aberdeen, Kincarden, Alford, Garioch, Deir, Turreff, Fordyce, Elton, Strathbogy, Abernethy, Elgin, Forres, Aberlower, Chanry, Tayne, Dingwall, Dornoch, Week, Thurso, Kirkwall, Scalloway, Colmkill.

A third court, whereof the bishop is president, is the provincial assembly or synod. In this court are discussed all appeals from the presbyteries, and all other difficult cases.

From hence are issued warrants for visiting churches. Here also the lives of scandalous ministers are tried, who, if found guilty of crimes laid to their charge, are either deposed, suspended, or excommunicated. The sentence of excommunication cannot be pronounced against an obstinate person but after a long process of near a year's continuance; and many citations and much pains to bring the scandalous person against whom only it is denounced to a due sense of his sins, and a willingness to submit to the censures of the church; and then it must be ratified and approved by the bishop. The provincial synod meets twice in the year, in April and October.

The highest ecclesiastical court is the general assembly; which as its constitution and authority were settled in king James's minority, was made up of two ministers, commissioners from every presbytery, and one lay-elder; a commissioner from every royal borough, one from every University and one from the king. These had the supreme authority about all church matters, and how much trouble they bred king James is not hard to be discovered. A shadow of this still remains; for the supreme ecclesiastical court is declared to be a national synod made up of bishops and deans, and two members from every presbytery, one of whom is of the bishop's nomination; and a commissioner from every University. But nothing is to be proposed but by the king or his commissioner; nor can any thing that they do be of any force till it be ratified by the king. But as the calling of this synod is wholly in the crown, so there is little need of it; since the king's supremacy is so large that he needs not their concurrence to add their authority to any thing that he shall think fit to do about church affairs. The bishops of Scotland take their places thus; St. Andrew's, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Galloway; the rest according to the seniority of their consecrations.

#### Of the KING'S COLLEGE in OLD ABERDEEN.

King James IV. and William Elphinston bishop of Aberdeen, procured from pope Alexander VI. the privilege of an University in Aberdeen, anno 1494. It is endowed with as ample privileges as any university in Christendom; and particularly, the foundation relates to the privileges of Paris and Bononia, but hath no reference to Oxford or Cambridge, because of the wars between Scotland and England at that time. The privileges were afterwards confirmed by pope Julius II. Clement VII. Leo X. and Paul II.; and by the successors of king James IV. The bishop of Aberdeen is perpetual chancellor of this University, and hath power to visit in his own person, and to reform abuses; and though he be not a doctor of divinity, yet the foundation gives him power of conferring that degree. The office of vice-chancellor resides in the official or commissary of Aberdeen. The rector, who is chosen yearly, with the

the assistance of his four assessors, is to take notice of abuses, &c. in the University, and to make return thereof to the chancellor. If one of the masters happen to be rector, then is his power devolved upon the vice-chancellor.

The college was founded by bishop William Elphinston anno 1500, and was called the King's college, because king James IV. took upon him and his successors the special protection of it. Persons endowed were a doctor in theology, who was principal; a doctor of the canon law; a doctor of the civil law; and a doctor of physick; a professor of humanity to teach grammar; a sub-principal to teach philosophy; a cantor; a sacrist; six students in divinity; three students in the law; 13 students in philosophy; an organist; five singing-boys, who were students in humanity.

**BENEFACTORS.** William Elphinston, bishop, the founder, built most part of the fabrick, furnished the great steeple with ten bells, gave many costly ornaments, as hangings, books, &c. King James IV. bestowed upon the college the rents of the hospital of St. Germain's in Lothian, whereof the tithes of the parishes of Aberluthnot in Mernis, of Glenmuik, and Glengairden in Mar, are a part; as also the tithes of the parishes of Slains and Furvie in Buchan. King James VI. bestowed upon it the rents of the Carmelite friars of Banff, the chaplainries of Westhall and Fallowrowll. King Charles I. anno 1641, gave to it two parts of the revenues of the bishoprick of Aberdeen, so long as the see should remain vacant; upon which donation, eight burfars more were endowed, and it was called the Caroline University. King Charles II. by the advice of the estates of parliament bestowed upon it, 1672, the stipends of all those churches which should happen to be vacant within the diocese of Aberdeen, Murray, Ross, and Caithness; and that for seven years following the date of the act. Gavin Dunbar, bishop of Aberdeen, built the South quarter of the college, and the houses belonging to the prebendaries, and perfected whatsoever bishop Elphinston left unfinished. William Stewart, bishop of Aberdeen, built the



the library, chapter, and vestry-houses; a school and chambers for the chaplains. Duncan Shearer, parson of Clatt, gave certain lands towards the maintenance of bursars. Robert Maitland, dean of Aberdeen, procured the annexation of the deanry to the college anno 1579. William Stewart, principal, procured the annexation of the rectory of Methlick to the college. Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys endowed three bursars. James Watt, rector of Snaith in Yorkshire, gave certain lands towards the maintenance of a student in divinity. Alexander Reid, doctor of physick, left a legacy to the college 200l. of English money. He also left his books to the library. John Forbes, doctor and professor of divinity (of whom before), purchased two houses, and left the one for the accommodation of his successors, professors of divinity, and the other for the use of the cantor. Those following left their books to the library: viz. George Clarke, a minister; Thomas Gairden; Sir Francis Gordon; Alexander Blackall, student in divinity, resident at London; Thomas Mercer, burgess of Aberdeen.

**PRINCIPALS.** Hector Boyes (of whom before), born in Dundee, and bred up in letters in the University of Paris, was the first principal. Besides his History of the Scots, he wrote the Lives of the bishops of Aberdeen, anno 1522. William Hay, subprincipal, was his successor, anno 153. John Bisset continued six years, and resigned his place anno 1552 (because of his infirmity proceeding from long sickness) to Alexander Anderson, sub-principal, who was also parson of Tyrie, and vicar of Kinkell, 1551. This man was a great scholar and a subtil disputant, but no great friend to the college. For the hatred he bare to the reformed religion, he alienated some of the college revenues, destroyed many of its writings and evidences, whereby many lands and other rents belonging to St. Germans are quite lost; sold the ornaments, books, and other furniture belonging to the college. Commendable he was in one thing; for when some of the reformers would have taken away the lead and bells, *repulit vim ferro*. He was afterwards turned out, and the place conferred upon Alexander Arbuthnot (brother to the baron of Arbuthnot),

not), anno 1569, parson of Arbuthnot and Logie Buchan; a modest, learned, and pious divine. Walter Stewart, subprincipal, was his successor, anno 1584; a very hopeful person, taken away in the 36th year of his age. Upon his death, anno 1593, David Rait (of the house of Halgreen in the Mernis), subprincipal, was preferred to the place. He continued principal forty-two years. To him succeeded, anno 1634, William Leslie, doctor in divinity, subprincipal, one of great learning. In his time, anno 1634, a storm of wind beat down the top of the great steeple, which afterwards was built more stately, consisting of four arches, supporting a crown, with a cross and a globe. Principal Leslie was for his loyalty thrust out by the covenanters, and in his room was elected, William Guild, doctor of divinity, minister of Aberdeen, and one of the chaplains to King Charles I. anno 1640, a learned and worthy person. He built the tradesmen's hospital in Aberdeen, left considerable legacies to the poor, and bequeathed his books to the library of St. Andrew's. Anno 1649, the general assembly gave a commission to some ministers and lay-elders to reform the college, and expel the malignant persons. They thrust out Dr. William Guild, principal; Alexander Middleton, subprincipal; Patrick Gordon and George Middleton, professors of philosophy. The commissioners at that time did not unanimously agree whom to put in; therefore they ordered the latter to continue till his place were supplied by another. Shortly after, the masters restored the principal to his place in despite of all opposition. But, anno 1651, general Monk sent five colonels to reform the college; colonels Fenwick, Molsey, Owen, Disborough, and Smith. At this Reformation, both principal and subprincipal were again turned out. Gilbert Rewle was instituted in the room of the latter; and the place of the former conferred upon, anno 1652, John Row, an independent minister in Edinburgh, a person well seen in the Latin and Greek languages, and not ill in the Hebrew. In his time, anno 1657, was laid the foundation of the new work in the North-East corner of the college, of six stories high, consisting of 24 chambers, with chimnies and conveniencies, a school, and a billiard-house.

house. The money that built it was given by the masters and other well-disposed persons, whose names are written in a register called "Album Amicorum Col. Regii Aberdeen." Mr. Row continued principal till anno 1661; at which time William Rait, minister at Brechin, was preferred to the place. He staid only a year, and returned to Brechin. Anno 1662, Alexander Middleton, minister in Old Aberdeen, and subprincipal (of whom before), succeeded him.

**PROFESSORS of DIVINITY.** The professor of divinity was founded by the bishop, synod, and college of Aberdeen, anno 162. The first professor was, anno 162. John Forbes, doctor of divinity, a most pious, peaceable, and learned person. The rest are wanting.

**An account of the UNIVERSITY and KING'S COLLEGE of ABERDEEN.**

The first erection of the University of Aberdeen by public authority (though it be probable, that for many years before both divinity and philosophy, as also the civil and canon laws, were publicly taught and professed by the canons of the cathedral) was anno 1494, by pope Alexander VI.; who, at the instance and desire of king James IV. by his bull dated at Rome, 4th February of the aforesaid year, erected in the city of Old Aberdeen, a *studium generale, et Universalitas studii generalis*; wherein theology, canon and civil laws, medicine, philosophy, and all other liberal arts and sciences should be publickly taught and professed; allowing both professors and students in ample form all the privileges, liberties, immunities, exemptions, &c. which were possessed by any University in any part of the world; and constituting bishop William Elphinston and his successors, bishops of Aberdeen, in all time coming chancellors of the said University, with full power to them, by themselves or their deputies, to confer degrees in all faculties on such as should be found worthy of them; and also to be sole judges in all causes belonging thereto, whether civil and criminal, real, personal, or mixt; ecclesiastical or temporal; so that the doctors, professors, and students thereof should not be obliged to answer before any



any other judge or judicatory whatsoever. The which bull was accordingly published by the aforesaid bishop William Elphinston, with all the usual solemnities, in the cathedral church of Aberdeen, on the 25th of February, 1496, in presence of the greatest part of the canons, and several other considerable persons; and also, doctors and professors in all the aforesaid faculties were established forthwith; and students began to flock thereto from all quarters; and many of all qualities gave up their names to be matriculated as members and supporters of the said University.

At the same time the aforesaid pope Alexander VI. at the desire also of king James IV. did gift and dote for maintenance of doctors and professors of the said University, all the rents and revenues of the hospital of St. Germain in Lothian; which consisted chiefly of the tithes of the parishes of Aberluthnot, Glenmuik, and Glengarden, together with many small annuities paid out of lands and houses, scattered up and down through Lothian, Fife, Angus, Mernis, and Aberdeenshire; all which the aforesaid bishop William Elphinston took legal possession of, by the resignation of Thomas Pyot, master of the said hospital, and the rest, who were curates at the aforesaid kirks; and did accordingly distribute them among the said professors, as he judged most fit and expedient.

Afterwards, anno 1498, king James IV. bestowed on them all the tithes, both great and small, of the parish of Slains in Buchan, together with some annuities payable out of some lands lying within the shire of Banff, and withal ratified and confirmed all the privileges granted formerly by the pope in as ample a form as could be; allowing them whatever the most christian French kings had conferred on the University of Paris, or whatever his royal progenitors king James I. and II. had bestowed on the Universities of St. Andrew's and Glasgow; appointing particularly the sheriff of Aberdeen or his depute, the provost of Aberdeen, and the bishop of Aberdeen his bailiff of the city of Old Aberdeen, conservators of their privileges, with as full power and jurisdiction as had been granted to the conservators of the University of Paris, or any other University whatsoever.

Some years after this, about anno 1500, bishop Elphinston built a very stately college, assigning to all the professors and students different lodgings and accommodations; and founding also several other persons therein, to the number at first of 36; afterwards enlarging them to 42, to all whom he appointed their proper offices, mansions, and callings, with a desire, no doubt, that others whom God should bless with the like means should after his example do the like for the glory of God, and encouragement and advancement of religion, learning, and virtue. Which college was appointed at first to be called *Collegium S. Mariæ in Nativitate*; afterwards (the king taking it into his own peculiar protection) *The King's College of Aberdeen*; by which name it has always been designed to this day.

The persons founded therein are these following: First, Four doctors in the four principal faculties.

The first in theology, who is appointed to be called principal, to whom all the rest are subject, and to whom is committed the whole government of the college; who is also bound by his office, in his doctoral habit, after the manner of the doctors of Paris, to teach theology, *omnibus diebus legibilibus*, and also to preach the word of God unto the people.

The second in the canon law, who is also bound in his doctoral habit, *ut supra*, to teach either in his manse or in *Ecclesia Beata Maria ad Nives*, commonly called the Snow Kirk, whereof he was also appointed rector, and obliged to maintain on his own charges a vicar in the said church, *pro cura animarum*.

The third, in the civil law, and the fourth in medicine; obliged also both of them to teach in their respective faculties, after the manner above-written.

All these four ought to be doctors in the respective faculties before ever they be admitted to these places, *si commode haberi possint*, otherwise at least licentiated; who, within a year after their admission, shall cause themselves to be promoted to the aforesaid degrees.

Next to these are appointed eight masters of arts. The first whereof is appointed to be subprincipal, being adjoined

to the principal in the administration of all things belonging to the college, and in his absence having the sole administration and government; who also ought to be at least batchelor in theology, and to have his lessons (*ut supra*) within the college, both in theology and also in philosophy and arts; and to whom also is committed the whole discipline and correction of all the students in the college, whether in philosophy or theology.

The second, grammarian; who is to have the charge of the grammar-school, and to teach grammar, rhetorick, and poetry.

The other six are appointed to be students in theology, until such time as they are capable of being promoted to the degree of doctorate in that faculty, which is only for the space of six years, after which they ought to receive the said degree, and to be removed, and their places filled with others.

There was afterwards a special Indultum granted by pope Paul III. anno 1538, to bishop Elphinston, and his successors bishops of Aberdeen, to continue the said students during pleasure, after the expiring of the aforesaid six years, in case either of want of others qualified to be put in their places, or any of them had not attained to such a measure of knowledge as fitted them for the aforesaid degree, but were desirous to study for some longer time in order thereto.

Of these six also are appointed to be chosen two or three, *cum opus fuerit*, at the pleasure of the principal and sub-principal, *ad regentiam in artibus*, who are bound to teach philosophy and arts to the students, and are therefore designed *regentes artium*.

All these six also are obliged by the foundation, after they have received the degree of batchelor (which ought to be within three years after admission, under pain of deprivation) to read theology publicly, *more Baccalaureorum Parisiensium*; as also in the eves of all the greater festivals to preach in Latin *per vices* in the chapel of said college, before the principal and all the masters and students; as also after dinner and supper, to lecture upon that portion of scripture which is read by one of the students of philosophy before meat.



After these, are appointed three batchelors and students in the laws; two in the civil and one in the canon law, who ought to attend the public lessons in the laws, and also to read the institutions thereof, *more Baccalaureorum*; and one of them further to officiate as chaplain of St. Mary Magdalen's in St. Nicholas's church in Aberdeen, having the profits and emoluments of that chaplainry assigned him for his salary. And all these aforementioned persons, both doctors, masters, batchelors, students (the mediciner only excepted) are bound by the foundation to be priests; at least thrice a week to say mass, and perform holy things.

But beside all these, there are founded further, 13 bursars or students *in artibus*; the two first thereof (*si commode habere possint*) are to be of the surname of Elphinston; and the three next of the parishes of Aberluthnot, Glenmuik, Glengarden, and Slains, or out of every one of them and both; and the rest of them ought to be such as their parents are not able on their own proper charges to entertain at the University, and are therefore to be maintained gratis in the said college at the study of philosophy, until such time as they be promoted to the degree of master of arts; which is to be three and a half years; after which they are to be removed, and others to be put in their places. And, when any of the aforesaid bursaries in theology are vacant, these according to their foundation are to be preferred. As also when any of the aforesaid prebends, viz. principal, canonist, civil, mediciner, subprincipal, or grammarian shall happen to vacate, one of the college who shall be judged fittest is to be preferred; and if none within the college be found qualified, one out of the same (*extra idem*), but still of the University, who is otherwise *habilis*, so long as any of the aforesaid persons shall be found capable.

There are further founded eight prebendary priests (*octo sacerdotes prebendarij*), the first whereof is appointed to be called Cantor, whose office is to order the tune and musick thereof, and other things of that nature belonging to divine service; as also by himself to keep a musick school, and to teach and instruct in that science all such as are willing to learn.

The second is called sacrist, to whom is committed the care of the church, the bells, and the hours of divine service, and all the ornaments and other necessary utensils belonging thereto.

The other six are called *Capellani Chori*, whose office is with the other two to perform the daily service morning and evening, and at other canonical hours. Every one of these, before he be admitted, is to give a specimen of his sufficient knowledge in grammar and musick; and also to make choice of some one of the aforesaid faculties, wherein he is to study and improve himself, that he may be the better fitted for the service of God.

Last of all, for fulfilling the aforesaid number, are founded six singing boys (*pueruli choriales*), having good clear voices, and being skilled in musick; who are bound with the aforesaid priests and chaplains, at all hours to be present at divine service; also to study diligently in one or other of the aforesaid faculties. For the accommodation of all these founded persons, the aforesaid bishop William Elphinston built (as has been said before) a very stately college, consisting of an entire court, with chapter, hall, schools, chambers, and all other necessities, all covered with lead, and assigned lodgings to the principal, subprincipal, and all students both of theology and philosophy within the gates thereof, with all desireable easements and accommodations.

For the rest he built particular and distinct manses, with gardens, and all other necessities, without the college, viz. for the canonist, civilist, mediciner, and grammarian, appointing them to have their lessons in their own manses, which were furnished with all conveniencies for that effect, as if they had been so many little colleges. He appointed also to be built chambers, and other accommodations for the chaplains and singing boys, which was afterwards begun, and brought some length, though not perfected, by bishop William Stewart, in a more commodious and convenient place than had been appointed by bishop Elphinston, which is now allotted to the principal for his dwelling house, but yet goes commonly under the name of Chaplain's Chambers. But above all, the church or

chapel was furnished and adorned with as great variety of rich and splendid ornaments as any church or chapel in Scotland, either for altars, images, pictures, crosses, crucifixes, monstrances, eucharists, chalices, lamps, candlesticks, vestments, hangings, bells, or any other things, usual in churches in those days. A particular inventory whereof and register is still extant in the charter chest of the said college, amounting to an incredible value.

For maintenance also of the aforesaid persons, the same bishop Elphinston, beside the former mortifications of the hospitals of St. Germain's, and parsonage and vicarage of Blains, which were principally by his procurement, mortified several other considerable things, and by his interest and authority in the country, and chiefly by his good example, moved several other persons both churchmen and laicks to do the like; insomuch as to every one of the aforesaid persons was allotted a distinct though mean salary, until such time as it shall please God to move the hearts of others to bestow more liberally upon them.

Afterwards, about the time of the Reformation, or shortly after, they received a considerable accession from King James VI. who first bestowed upon them (anno 1574) the subchantery of Aberdeen, commonly call the Spital, the parsonage and vicarage of Forvie, the chaplainries of Westhall and Fallowroule, and all the rents and revenues of the Carmelite friers in Banff.

Afterwards, 1574, the whole deanry of Aberdeen was resigned in their favour by Mr. Robert Maitland, dean for the time, with a reservation thereof for the said Mr. Robert's life-time; and again, 1586, the parsonage of Methlick was resigned also in their favour with the like reservation by Mr. Walter Stewart, principal of the said college, who enjoyed the said benefice for the time. These three mortifications, especially the deanry, make up the greatest part of the revenues at present possessed by them; by which means also the principal of the said college is now always dean, the subprincipal subchanter, and the eldest regent parson of Methlick.

Yet as the Reformation made a considerable accession to their revenues, so it produced a great change in their

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foundation and constitution. For not only were all the present incumbents deposed for popery and superstition, but also the greatest part of their offices totally suppressed and abolished; and, in a word, nothing left but the office of principal, subprincipal, three regents, and a grammarian or humanist, together with some few bursars in philosophy; and accordingly there was a new foundation drawn, anno 1592, much after the model of the foundation made some time before for St. Andrew's and Glasgow, which foundation still continued in use till about anno 1619, when bishop Patrick Forbes obtained a ratification and renovation of the old foundation in parliament, to remain in full force and vigour in all time coming; and accordingly restored some of the chief offices formerly abolished, viz. canonist, civilist, and mediciner; which for the most part have still since continued, with a purpose also to have restored all the other members and officers, at least in so far as they were consistent with the present established reformed religion; but being prevented by death, and our late national troubles falling in shortly after, never any thing was done in order to it, nor can reasonably be expected to be done, except our governors be pleased to take into their consideration the meanness of the present revenues of the college, which after all the improvements that the present incumbents have been able to make of it, is so mean and inconsiderable it were a shame to name the masters salaries in print. In the mean time the aforesaid first foundation hath been ratified in all the succeeding parliaments lawfully held since that time, and remains presently in vigour in the said college, at least so far as it was authorized by the aforesaid bishop Patrick Forbes, in manner above set down. The filling of all the aforesaid places and offices goes by election after this manner. The principal is chosen by the rector of the University, the *Procuratores Nationum* (for all the sub-posts of the University, according to the usual custom, are divided into four nations, viz. Aberdeen, Murray, Angus, and Lothian) the doctors of the canon and civil laws, the mediciner, the subprincipal, the grammarian, the *Regentes Artium*, and other students of theology, the cantor, and sacrificer, or the greatest part thereof, and is admitted by the chancellor

chancellor of the University. The canonist by the aforesaid rector and procuratores, principal, and subprincipal, civilist, mediciner, and grammarian, and admitted by the chancellor. The civilist, with the batchelors and students of the laws, by the rector and procuratores, principal and subprincipal, canonist, mediciner, and grammarian, and admitted by the chancellor. The mediciner by the rector and procuratores, the principal and subprincipal, the canonist, civilist, and grammarian, and admitted by the chancellor. The subprincipal by the rector and procuratores, the four doctors, the grammarian, regents, and students in theology, and admitted by the chancellor. The grammarian by the rector and procuratores, the four doctors, the subprincipal, regents, and students in theology, cantor, and sacrist, and admitted by the chancellor. The students of theology and philosophy by the subprincipal, regents, grammarian, canonist, civilist, mediciner, and admitted by the principal. The cantor and sacrist by the principal, subprincipal, canonist, civilist, mediciner, grammarian, and regents, and admitted by the chancellor. The other six *prebendarii chorii* by the rector, subprincipal, doctors of the law and medicine, grammarian, cantor, and sacrist, and admitted by the principal. The six choristers by the subprincipal, regents, grammarian, cantor, and sacrist, and admitted by the principal. Where it is observable, that every one of these elections differeth in something from all the rest; particularly the principal's is by all members or *majorem partem*, but the rest neither by all nor the greatest part of the electors; but to them is subjoined this following clause, *Nolumus autem ut in omnibus istis electionibus, seu nominationibus, principalis dieti collegij habeat vocem electivam, seu nominativam & conclusivam*, which proportion hath been the occasion of many jars betwixt the principal and the rest of the members anent their elections; they contending that all should be by plurality of voices; and he claiming by the aforesaid clause as much as will at least amount to a negative. And it were very desirable that authority should give the sense thereof, to be a standing rule in all time coming, which might be a means to prevent all divisions and discords among them for the future.

In the mean time it is further expressly provided, that if the electors do not elect within a month after the vacancy conform to the aforesaid method, the place shall be filled for that vice by the chancellor of the University; or in the vacancy of the see by the commissioner of Aberdeen.

Out of the aforesaid number one is yearly to be chosen common procurator of the college, whose office is to collect and distribute according to the foundation all the rents of the said college, and also to grant charters, leases, and tacks to the vassals, tacksmen, and other tenants, for the profit, welfare, and utility of the college, but not without advice and consent of the masters his constituents, or major part thereof. He is yearly to make compt to the college of his intromissions, and also to give sufficient caution and surety ere he be admitted to that office.

There is moreover to be chosen, at the pleasure of the principal, subprincipal, and regents, an *aeconomus* or provisor, who is bound to keep a table within the college to the principal, masters, and bursars, at the expence of the college, and also to such other students on their own charges as the principal and masters shall think fit to admit thereto.

There are also to be chosen, in case of vacancy, by the principal and masters, the *vicarij pensionarij*, or the ministers and curates of those churches whereof the college hath the tithes, and consequently the patronage, viz. Aberluthnot, Glenmuick and Glengarden, Slains, Methlick, Old Machar, and New-hills, which three last are all of the deanry above-written.

Last of all it is appointed by the foundation, that yearly shall be chosen the rector of the University, who whether he be a member of the college or not (which though he may be, yet now that there are more colleges in the University, is neither usual nor to any purpose, as will presently appear) must always be one actually resident within the bounds of the University, who (providing he be not *de gremio Collegii*, in which the commissioner of Aberdeen) is bound by the counsel and advice of four assessors, masters of arts of the University, and to be chosen also and deput-  
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ed for that effect by the University once every year, to visit the said college, *tam in capite quam in membris*, all the doctors, professors, students, and other members thereof; and to search and enquire whether all things be rightly gone about, according to the order of the foundation; and whatever shall be found amiss to put in writing, and represent it to the chancellor of the University, who by the advice of the aforesaid visitors is bound to reform and amend the same, as he shall answer to God.

And if the said visitors shall either be wanting or negligent in their visitation every year with the solemnity and uprightness that is requisite, then the aforesaid chancellor by himself may and ought to do it manner above-written, being charged by the foundation to do so, as he shall make his account to God.

Here followeth a List of all such as have been MASTERS and PROFESSORS in the King's College of Aberdeen; as also of some other famous persons educated therein.

#### I. PRINCIPALS.

1. Hector Boethius was the first principal, whom bishop Elphinston brought purposely out of France for that end, together with Mr. William Gray to be subprincipal; both of them at that time professing philosophy in the University of Paris. He was the author of that famous Chronicle of Scotland called "Boyes's Chronicle." He received his degree of doctor in the same college, after he was principal thereof.

2. Mr. William Gray, subprincipal, presently spoken of, succeeded principal after Boyes's death, and lived till about anno 1540.

2. Mr. John Bisset, regent in the said college, succeeded (as should appear), by a presentation from the pope, which was expressly contrary to the foundation. For afterwards, anno 1551, he resigned his principality into the pope's hands in favour of Alexander Anderson, subprincipal, who (it seems) was his competitor for the place, and was ever after during the said Mr. Bisset's life, which was till about anno 1559, designed in all publick writers *subprincipalis Collegij regalis Aberdonen. & officio principalis.*

4. Mr. Alexander Anderson, subprincipal, succeeded

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sole principal after Mr. Bisset's death. In his time fell out the Reformation, wherein together with all the masters he was deposed, anno 1569, by a visitation appointed by the general assembly, the earl of Murray regent being personally present at the deposition. He was esteemed a man both pious and learned, and also very active and fit for his employment. He kept on the lead upon the fabrick, and defended the college, *manu forti*, from being sacked in the time of the Reformation; but afterwards, finding all things going to wreck and ruin (as he supposed), he conveyed away all the ornaments and *jocalia* of the college privately, and thought to have done so with the writes and evidents of the charter chest also, but was prevented. He was parson of Mortlich also, and vicar of Kinkell. He lived several years obscurely in Aberdeen after his deposition, and died there.

5. Mr. Alexander Arbuthnot, parson of Arbuthnot, was put in after Mr. Anderson's deposition, anno 1569; by his procurement the deanry and subchantery were obtained to the college. He died in October 1583.

6. Mr. Walter Stewart, subprincipal, succeeded anno 1584, and died 1593, not being past 36 years of age; a man much esteemed for learning and prudence. He had the parsonage of Methlick, and resigned it to the college, as was said before.

7. Mr. David Rait, subprincipal, succeeded, and was afterwards graduated doctor of divinity, being the first that received the degree in the college after the Reformation. He lived till anno 1632, having born office within the college as regent, subprincipal, and principal about 50 years. In his time the office of canonist, civilist, &c. were revived by archbishop Patrick Forbes, as were said before.

8. Dr. William Leslie, subprincipal, succeeded after Dr. Rait's death; he received the degrees both of bachelor and doctor while he was subprincipal; he was in very great esteem for his learning, being one of the doctors of Aberdeen who wrote the Duplies, &c. He was deposed for his refusing the covenant, anno 1639.

9. Dr. William Guild, minister of Aberdeen, was made principal after Dr. Leslie's deposition, anno 1641; he was a man very fit for government, and rectified and reformed many

many abuses, which had crept formerly into the college, and established good order and discipline among the students. He was also deposed by the English in the time of the Usurpation, anno 1652.

10. Mr. John Row, minister of Aberdeen, was put in principal by the English after Dr. Guild's deposition; and was also put out again at the King's restoration, anno 1661. He was skilled in the Hebrew tongue, and took great pains in teaching the students the same.

11. Mr. William Rait, minister at Brichen, was chosen principal after Mr. John Row, but continued only a year, and was transported to be minister at Dundee, having never settled at Aberdeen. He had been regent in the college, and was a man of known repute both for learning and piety.

12. Mr. Alexander Middleton, formerly subprincipal, but then minister at Old Aberdeen, entered principal anno 1663. He had been deposed from the subprincipality by the English at the same time with Dr. Guild; and after Mr. Rait's transportation was again restored principal, and was living 1683, having been eight years regent, eleven subprincipal, and twenty principal of the said college.

13. Dr. George Middleton succeed his father Mr. Alexander Middleton in the office of principallship in the King's college of Old Aberdeen. He was first minister at Glamis; but being called to the college, he was five years regent, seven subprincipal, and thirty-five principal. He was graduated doctor of divinity by the archbishop of St. Andrew's. He was a great humanist and philosopher, a sound divine, and of a circumspect life and conversation; notwithstanding the presbyterians turned him out of his post, and with him Mr. John Gordon, civilist, Dr. James Urquhart, and Mr. Richard Gordon, regents, anno 1717.

CANONISTS. 1. Mr. Arthur Boyes, brother to the aforesaid Hector Boyes, principal, was the first canoist. 2. Mr. John Sinclair, *utriusque juris licentiatu*s. 3. Mr. John Spittal. 4. Mr. John Leslie, U. J. C. He was also commissioner of Aberdeen, and parson of Oyne; and afterwards bishop of Ross, famous for his fidelity to Queen Mary. 5. Mr. Andrew Leslie. 6. Mr. Alexander Cheyne, commissioner of Aberdeen. 7. Mr. William



liam Anderson was the first canonist when the office was restored 1619; he was only titular, and had no salary.

8. Mr. James Sandilands, commissioner of Aberdeen, J. U. D. 9. Mr. James Sandilands, son to the aforesaid Mr. James, afterwards civilist. 10. Mr. Robert Forbes, who was last in that office.

**CIVILISTS.** 1. Mr. Nichol Hay, commissioner of Aberdeen, was the first. 2. Mr. Thomas Nicolson, commissioner of Aberdeen. 3. Mr. Roger Mowat, advocate in Edinburgh. 4. Mr. James Sandilands, younger, formerly canonist. 5. Mr. Patrick Gordon, formerly regent and afterwards humanist. 6. Mr. William Johnston, formerly regent. 7. Sir George Nicolson of Kennay, one of the senators of the college of justice.

**MEDICINERS.** 1. Mr. James Cumming was the first; 2. Mr. Robert Gray. 3. Mr. Gilbert Skene. 4. Mr. Patrick Dun, afterwards principal of the Marischal college. 5. Dr. William Gordon. 6. Dr. Andrew Moore. 7. Dr. Patrick Urquhart, presently in office. 8. Dr. Gregory, immediately after Dr. Urquhart's death, succeeded; anno 1725, and is presently in office.

**SUBPRINCIPALS.** 1. Mr. William Gray was the first subprincipal, being brought from Paris for that end, as was said before. He entered principal after Hector Boyes's death. 2. Mr. Alexander Anderson was the second, and entered principal after Bisset's death. 3. Mr. Andrew Galloway succeeded, when Anderson was made principal, and was put out with him at the Reformation. 4. Mr. James Lawson was made subprincipal at the Reformation, when Mr. Arbuthnot was made principal; he continued but three years, and then succeeded a minister at Edinburgh, in the place of John Knox. 5. Mr. William Stewart was the next subprincipal, who entered principal after Mr. Arbuthnot's death. 6. Mr. David Rait succeeded him both in the offices of principal and subprincipal. 7. Mr. Peter Venep, who died in that office. 8. Mr. John Chalmers, afterwards minister of Keith. 9. Mr. Patrick Guthrie, afterwards minister of Logie. 10. Mr. William Forbes, afterwards parson of Mortlich. 11. Mr. William Leslie, afterwards principal. 12. Dr. David Leitch, afterwards

wards minister of Ellon. 13. Mr. Robert Ogilvie, afterwards minister at Methlick. 14. Mr. Alexander Middleton, put out by the English anno 1652; and afterwards made principal at the King's restoration. 15. Mr. Gilbert Rewle was put in by the English, and having continued three or four years, went to England. 16. Mr. Patrick Sandilands, who died in that office. 17. Mr. Andrew Massie, afterwards regent in Edinburgh. 18. Dr. George Middleton, afterwards principal. 19. Mr. George Frazer, who died in that office. 20. Mr. Alexander Frazer, presently in that office.

GRAMMARIANS. 1. Johannes Vaus. 2. Theophilus Stewart. After the Reformation, for many years there was no grammarian, but some student or other in theology put in for a time, to officiate for a certain salary, without any of the privileges belonging to the office of the foundation, who was commonly preferred to the first vacant regency, till bishop Patrick Forbes restored also that office to its integrity. After which succeeded, 1. Mr. David Wedderburn, only titular. 2. Mr. George Milner, afterwards minister at Premnay. 3. Mr. John Lundie, who died in that office. 4. Mr. John Brodie. 5. Mr. John Forbes, formerly professor of humanity in the Marischal college, afterwards sheriff-depute of Aberdeen. 6. Mr. Patrick Gordon, who, having been formerly deposed in the time of usurpation from his regency, was made civilist at the King's restoration; and upon some considerations exchanged the said office with this office of humanist. 7. Mr. Alexander Gordon, son of the afore-said Mr. Patrick, succeeded humanist in the King's college.

REGENTS. 1. Mr. John Bisset is the first regent we read of, who was afterwards principal. 2. Mr. Alexander Anderson, afterwards subprincipal and principal. 3. Mr. Andrew Galloway, afterwards subprincipal. 4. Mr. John Henderson. 5. Mr. Gilbert Garden. 6. Mr. William Mainie. 7. Mr. William Lumsden. 8. Mr. Robert Maitland, afterwards dean of Aberdeen; the same who resigned the deanry in favour of the college, at the Reformation. 9. Mr. James Chalmers. 10. Mr. John Rait. 11. Mr. Andrew Anderson. 12. Mr. Thomas

mas Anneslie. 13. Mr. Gilbert Norrie. The three last were put out, with the principal and subprincipal, at the Reformation.

After the Reformation. 1. Mr. George Paterson minister at Daviot. 2. Mr. Hercules Rolloch. These two were put in at the same time, when Mr. Arbuthnot was made principal, and Mr. Lawson subprincipal. 3. Mr. Thomas Cheyne. 4. Mr. Duncan Davidson, afterwards minister at Rathen. 5. Mr. Robert Mercer, after minister at Banchory-Devenick. 6. Mr. Walter Ogilvie. 7. Mr. Walter Stewart, afterwards both principal and subprincipal. 8. Mr. Alexander Skene. 9. Mr. Andrew Arbuthnot. 10. Mr. Daniel Rait, afterwards both subprincipal and principal. 11. Mr. Robert Burnet, afterwards minister at Oyne. 12. Mr. Peter Udny, afterwards subprincipal. 13. Mr. David Clarke. 14. Mr. William Barclay, afterwards an advocate in Edinburgh. 15. Mr. John Guthrie, afterwards minister at Banff. 16. Mr. James Sibbald, afterwards parson of Benholme. 17. Mr. William Forbes, afterwards minister at Kilbotoch, or Towie. 18. Mr. David Robertson, afterwards minister at St. Fergus. 19. Mr. John Chalmers, afterwards subprincipal. 20. Mr. Andrew Young, both before, and afterwards regent in Edinburgh. 21. Mr. James Strachan, afterwards minister at Coldstone. 22. Mr. Patrick Guthrie, afterwards subprincipal. 23. Mr. Gilbert Keith, afterwards minister at Skene. 24. Mr. Patrick Reid. 25. Mr. Robert Dunbar, afterwards minister at Skene. 26. Mr. James Rait, afterwards minister at Arbuthnot. 27. Mr. William Forbes, afterwards subprincipal. 28. Mr. William Leslie, afterwards both subprincipal and principal. 29. Mr. Alexander Lunan, afterwards minister at Monymusk. 30. Mr. John Forbes, afterwards minister at Auchterless. 31. Mr. Patrick Forbes, who died regent. 32. Mr. John Lundie, afterwards humanist. 33. Mr. David Leitch, afterwards subprincipal. 34. Mr. George Leith, afterwards minister at Belhelvie. 35. Mr. Andrew Strachan, afterwards professor of divinity in Old Aberdeen. 36. Mr. George Milne, formerly humanist, and afterwards minister of Premnay. 37. Mr. James Sandilands,



Sandilands, afterwards civilist. 38. Mr. Robert Ogilvie, afterwards subprincipal. 39. Mr. William Strachan, afterwards minister of Old Aberdeen. 40. Mr. Alexander Middleton, afterwards both subprincipal and principal. 41. Mr. Alexander Gordon, afterwards minister of Forgue. 42. Mr. Alexander Scroggie, afterwards minister at Old Aberdeen. 43. Mr. Patrick Gordon, afterwards both civilist and humanist. 44. Mr. William Rait, afterwards principal. 45. Mr. George Middleton, afterwards doctor of medicine; he was put out by the English. 46. Mr. Andrew Youngson, formerly regent in the Marischal college, afterwards doctor of medicine; he went abroad and became popish. 47. Mr. Patrick Sandilands, formerly regent in the Marischal college, afterwards subprincipal. 48. Mr. John Strachan, afterwards doctor of medicine; he went abroad and became popish, and died rector of the Scottish college at Rome. 49. Mr. Gilbert Rewle, afterwards subprincipal. 50. Mr. Hugh Anderson, afterwards minister of Cromarty. 51. Mr. Andrew Massie, afterwards subprincipal. 52. Mr. William Johnston, afterwards civilist. 53. Mr. George Gordon, afterwards Earl of Aberdeen, and Lord High Chancellor of Scotland. 54. Mr. Robert Forbes, formerly regent in the Marischal college, and afterwards canonist. 55. Mr. Henry Scougal, afterwards professor of divinity in Old Aberdeen. 56. Mr. George Middleton, formerly minister at Glamis, and afterwards both subprincipal and principal. 57. Mr. George Garden, afterwards minister at Old Aberdeen. 58. Mr. John Buchan, afterwards advocate in Edinburgh. 59. Mr. George Fraser, afterwards subprincipal.

These are the names of all such as have borne those offices in this university; many whereof have been very eminent for learning, and other endowments, and have done considerable service both in these and other nations wherein they have been employed. But besides these, many excellent men of great fame and reputation both at home and abroad, have had their education here, which were an endless labour to reckon out; and for instance thereof may be named only those great men the doctors of Aberdeen,

so famous over all the three kingdoms for their learning, piety, and loyalty in the beginning of our last national troubles; the greatest part of whom were educated from their infancy in this place, and such as at least received their degree therein.

But besides these, there may be mentioned three of the present age; who, by their virtue and merit, have raised themselves to the highest employments either of church or state, which subjects are capable of; and have perhaps (without disparagement to others) given as great proof of their conduct, and done as great service to these nations as any, or as could reasonably be expected of men subject to the common infirmities of nature, who all passed their course entirely in this place; and during that time both by their proficiency and deportment gave many early pre-  
sages of their future greatness; and these are,

1. John late Earl of Middleton, his majesty's first high commissioner for the kingdom, after his happy restoration.

2. James late lord archbishop of St. Andrew's, primate and metropolitan of all Scotland, so barbarously butchered for his service to God and his prince.

3. George earl of Aberdeen, who not only passed his course, but (as was said before) bore office here, being for the pregnancy of his parts and the great hopes he gave of himself, elected and admitted regent the very next day after he was graduated master of arts, in the place of his own master, the famous and learned Dr. Strachan, who left the college at this time; in which office having acquitted himself to his own credit and the general satisfaction of all for the space of four years; having graduated his class, he dimitted his office; and having spent some few years in the study of the laws, partly at home and partly abroad, at his return to the kingdom entered advocate; and being elected commissioner for the barons of the shire of Aberdeen to his majesty's second parliament, held by the duke of Lauderdale, did therein, and in other transactions wherein he was occasionally employed, give such evidence of the greatness of his parts, and his fitness for greater employments, that in a very short time he passed (as it were) through all the  
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stages of preferment; being first admitted one of his majesty's privy council, afterwards one of the senators of the college of justice, after that president of the session, and last of all lord high-chancellor of Scotland, which office he executed to his majesty's honour, the happiness of this kingdom both for the church and state, the immortal glory and renown of himself and noble family, and the great credit of this famous University and college, the happy place of his education. He hath purchased a great estate, and is yet in life this year 1719.

To these may be subjoined another of the last age, no less famous for the greatness and nobility of his virtue and employments, viz. George earl Marischal, founder of the Marischal college, sometime also high-commissioner of this kingdom under his majesty king James VI. in his parliament 1606; and who had formerly sustained the person of proxy to his majesty in his happy marriage with the virtuous and renowned queen Ann.

Many other persons, some of great quality by birth, and others honourably employed both in church and state, might be named; some whereof have been, and others are, ornaments to this nation; but not being able to condescend upon all, and loth to mention some, and neglect others, I shall forbear.

**Registrum omnium vasorum argenteorum, æneorum, ferreorum, capparum & aliorum Templi ornamentum, necnon vestium, atrabascensium, cervicalium, & aliorum bonorum Coll. Reg. Aberd. in Templo, Campanili, Aula & Cubiculis ejusdem Coll. contentorum. Compositum in Visitatione facta per venerabiles & egregios viros, Magistros Jacobum Strachan de Belhelvie, Universitatis Aberdon. rectorem, Alexander Galloway a Kinkell, Alexander Spittal a Clatt, Jacobum Wavern de Oyne, & Johannem Elphinston de Invernochtie, canonicos Aberdon. A. D. 1542.**

*Vasa Argentea.* Una monstrantia argentea, duos cubitos prope alta (eucharistiam vulgus appellat) ad Christi Corpus adorationis causa, a populo deportandum, incredibili arte confecta, deaurata ponderis . . . In ea beryllum pulchrum,



pulchrum. Alia monstrantia parva, ad similem usum, non deaurata; ponderis . . . Crux argentea, cum crucifixio; ponderis quinquaginta unciarum argenti. Duo candelabra argentea, ponderis . . . Duo thuribula argentea, ponderis . . . Arcula thuraria, cum cochleari argenteo, ponderis 12 unciarum argenti. Aliud cochleare argentetum, auratum, manubio christallino, ad eundem usum; duarum prope unciarum. Calix argenteus, auratus; cum patena; 5 supra viginti unciarum, donatus per bonæ memoriæ Georgium Brown, quondam episcopum Dunkelden. Textuari-um argenteum; auratum; 5 supra 20 unciarum. Vas argenteum, ad benedictam aquam circumvehendam, cum aspersoriis; ponderis 5 supra 40 unciarum. Tres calices minores argentei, aurati, cum pateris; singulæ singularum 17 unciarum. Calix magnus argenteus, deauratus; cum patena, & cochleari, ponderis 42 unciarum. Duo calices argentei, cum patenis, non aurati; horum unus, cum patena, ponderis 20 unciarum, cum medio; alter, cum patena; 4 supra 20 unciarum. Calix argenteus, non auratus, datus per M<sup>r</sup>um Arthurum Boethium, olim canonistam collegij Aberdonen. 4 Phialæ argenteæ; harum duæ majores, ponderis 14 unciarum, cum quarta unius unciae; aliæ duo paulo minores, ponderis . . . Insignia regis argentea, aurata, & miro artificio confect. circumferenda in pectore principali-oris cappæ, in magnis solennitatibus.

*Vasa Ænea.* Octo candelabra ænea. Duo candelabra ad ornatum altaris folij crucifixi; data per dominum Gul. Elphinston, olim rectorem de Clatt. Tres ambones tenei; unus pro evangelio cantando; alter pro epistola; & tertius pro legenda. Vas æneum pro aqua benedicta circumvehenda.

*Vasa Ferrea.* Lampas pendula, coram venerabili sacramento, donata per M<sup>r</sup>um Alex<sup>um</sup> Galloway, rectorem a Kinkell. Candelabrum æneum pendulum, coram summo altari, ex dono magistri Arthuri Boethij.

*Columna Ænea.* Quatuor columnæ, super quas effigies 4 angelorum portantium insignia Christi; sunt enim super easdem columnas 10 candelabra ænea. 3 Candelabra ænea, pro luminibus in choro, tempore hyemali. 2 parva candelabra ænea, ad ornatum altaris B. Catharinæ

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Virginis ; donata per M<sup>r</sup>um Arthurum Boethium. Sepulchrum domini fundatoris ; in cuius suprema parte imago ipsius in pontificalibus, cum 2 angelis portantibus 2 candelabra ad caput ; & 2 mercenarijs epitaphium in eum inscriptum ad pedes portantibus : inferius, ex australi parte, 3 virtutes theologicæ, et contemplatio ; in boreali, 4 virtutes cardinales, suis signis distinctæ. In orientali & occidentali partibus domini fundatoris insignia, ab angelis lata.

*Cappæ, & aliæ Vestes pretiosæ.* Imprimis. Ex aureo textili rubro, sacræ vestes. 4 cappæ, casula, dalmatica, 3 albæ lineæ hæc ornamenta concernentes. Tunica, & amictus 3, harum fibræ laterales auro atque bysso artificiosissimo opere redimitico, sanctorum imaginibus contextæ. 2 stolæ, 3 manipuli, 15 puramenta.

*Ex auro textili albo sacræ Vestes.* 4 Cappæ, casula, dalmatica, tunica, 3 albæ lineæ concernentes amictus, 3 harum fibræ laterales aureæ & byssinæ, opere redimitæ divorum imaginibus contextæ. 2 Stolæ, 3 manipuli, 15 puramenta. Cappa Unica ex auro textili viridi bysso eminenti ; fibra laterali rubra ; dono præfati reverendi domini Georgij Brown, episcopi Dunkelden.

*Virides ex villoso Byss.* 4 Cappæ, casula, dalmatica, tunica, 3 albæ lineæ concurrentes, & amictus tres ; harum fibræ laterales aureæ & byssinæ, opere redimitico divorum imaginibus contextæ. 2 Stolæ, 3 manipuli, 15 puramenta.

*Azureæ Vestes ex villoso Byss.* 4 Cappæ, casula, dalmatica, tunica, 3 albæ lineæ concurrentes, & amictus 3 ; harum fibræ laterales opere redimitico, ut supra contextæ. 2 Stolæ, 3 manipuli, 15 puramenta.

*Rubra vestes ex villoso Byss.* 2 Cappæ, casula, dalmatica, tunica, 3 albæ lineæ concurrentes & amictus 3 ; harum fibræ laterales, opere redimitico, ut supra contextæ. 2 Stolæ, 3 manipuli, 15 puramenta.

*Nigræ vestes ex villoso Byss.* 2 Cappæ, casula, dalmatica, tunica, 3 albæ lineæ concurrentes & amictus 3 ; harum fibræ laterales ex villoso bysso rubra, aureis stellis consitæ. 2 Stolæ, 3 manipuli, 15 puramenta.

*Ex Byssu palmata azurea.* 2 Cappæ, quarum fibræ laterales ex bysso palmata alba, stellis aureis consitea. 3<sup>ia</sup> cappa,

cappa, fibra laterali undulata bysso. casula ex fatina bysso, ad colorem azureum tendente, rubra cruce ejusdem generis byssi, cum stola alba, & 5 puramentis.

*Vestes sacrae pro dominicali usu.* Casula, dalmatica, tunica ex bysso palmitate subalba, tractibus & cruce, & rubra fatino bysso; 3 albæ, cum 15 puramentis.

*Pro quotidiano usu.* Una casula, ex bysso undulata, rubra, cruce viridi; casula ex bysso undulata, subrubra, cruce viridi; 2 albæ, 2 amictus.

*Pro Quadragesima.* 3 Casula, crucibus rubis; cappa, dalmatica, 3 stolæ, 3 manipuli, 15 puramenta ex alba fatina, 3 albæ concurrentes, cum tribus amictibus. Vestes puerorum ministrantium in solennitatibus. 3 Cappæ, casula, dalmatica, tunica, 2 stolæ, 3 manipuli, 15 puramenta, 2 pendulæ vestes pro summo altari, crucibus rubris; hæ omnes ex duplici worstet, nigro & azureo; 3 albæ, & 3 amictus lintei concurrentes easdem vestes.

*Corporalia & eorum capsulae.* Unum corporale honestum, ex lino Hollandico, dono Alexandri Galloway a Kinkell. Cistula miro artificio confecta, & varijs margaritis exornata, pro reliquijs sanctorum & corporalibus; coopertorium calicis, ex auro textili, per dictum rectorem de Kinkell donatum. Una capsula, lateribus purpura operatis, & superiore parte ex auro textili, per præfatum rectorem de Kinkell donatum. Alia capsula, lateribus bysso villosa nigro operatis, & superiore parte effigie pueri Jesu, & auro textili operata, per dominum de Elphinston data.

*Altaria, & eorum ornamenta.* Pro majori altari 3 appendicia; 1. cui historiæ divæ virginis Mariæ, filijs byssinis ac lateris sunt contextæ. 2. Effigies apostolorum, Petri, Andreæ, & Johannis continent. 3. Pro quotidiana usu. Ad majus altare est una tabula magna arte pictoria, miro ingenio confecta; vestis linea ad hanc tabulam, tempore Quadragesimali tegendum, cui crux rubra affigitur; alia vestis linea minor ante summum altare, tempore Quadragesimali appendenda, rubra cruce; velum magnum, ex candente lino, infra chorum, & summum altare, tempore Quadragesimali, appensum, cum cordis & annulis requisitis. Altare venerabilis sacramenti, constructum per præfatum rectorem de Kinkell. Super hoc altare est locus pro sacramento



mento figuræ pyramidatae, per eundem rectorem donatus. Est præterea statua divæ Virginis, patronæ collegij, ex alabastris, seu Pario lapide; parva tabula, ex auro textili, per eundem rectorem donata. 2 Mappæ per eundem; parvum cervical, ex arrais . . . per eundem; vestis atrabascensis \* cum imaginibus, pendula apud idem altare per eundem. Altare B. Catharinæ Virginis, constructum per executores Hectoris Boethij; effigies . . . ad hoc altare est tabula continens effigies duæ nostræ divarum, Catharinæ & Barbaræ. Antipendium, cum armis præfati Hectoris; vestis atrabascensis prope idem altare pendula, continens imaginem nostræ dominæ in medio; per Arthurum Boethium. Calix & candelabra prius scripta. Casula, ex villosa bysso pura, ad usum ejusdem altaris, cruce flava ex fatina; alba, cum amictu, absque puramentis. Stola ex bysso undulata . . . per eundem Arthurum Boethium. Duæ mappæ ad idem altare per eundem, Missulæ parum impressum, per eundem, pro eodem altari. Altare B. Mariæ virginis in nave ecclesiæ habet tabulam arte statuaria, & duas statuas; alteram ejusdem virginis, & alteram B. Kentigerni episcopi. Antipendia ejusdem altaris, viz. unum atrabascense, cui divarum effigies & flores, filis laneis subtilibus bysso commixtis sunt contexti; dono Andreæ Cullane, burgensis de Aberdon. Aliud ex tota linea floribus contextum pro quotidiano usu, cortina byssina, dono ejusdem Andreæ Cullane. Duo velamina, ad usum ejusdem altaris, tempore Quadragesimali, altam super tabulam. Alterum pendulum ante altare; unum antipendium, ex tela rubra worset, aureis ac byssinis floribus, opere redimitico ornatum. Altare Sti. Germani, habens tabulam arte statuaria, & duas statuas; alteram Salvatoris flagellati, alteram sancti Christophori. Antipendia ejusdem altaris, viz. unum divæ virginis effigies, ad *refugium* trito vocabulo dicta, filis laneis ac byssinis textitur; aliud ex tela lineæ floribus contextum, pro quotidiano usu; duo velamina ad usum ejusdem altaris tempore Quadragesimali, ut supra. Unum antipendium, ex tela rubra worset, aureis ac byssinis floribus, opere redimitico ornatum. Altare

\* *Atrabascensis vestes, atrii coloris: Suidas and other Glossaries. Du Cange, in voc.*

folij crucifixi, superquod est crucifixus; & statua divae virginis, & Johannis apostoli & evangelistae; velamen lineum, pro usu Quadragesimali, cooperiens crucifixum, & duas praedictas statuas, cui crux rubra assuitur. Ornamenta ejusdem altaris, per dominum Gul. Elphinston a Clatt. Vestis pendula, cui effigies crucifixi, lana & bysso, varijs cum floris, & imaginibus intexitur. Duae mappae ad altaris usum; casula ex tela worset subrubra, cum manipulo, stola, 5 puramentis, floribus, auro & bysso redimitico, alba, cum emictu & zona. Item, Missale parum impressum, per eundem rectorem de Clatt donatum. Duo candelabra supra scripta sunt. Velamen magnum ex lino ante statuas Salvatoris et apostolorum in facie folij crucifixi, tempore Quadragesimali, appensum; huic tres cruces nigrae sunt assutae. Not. singulae ecclesiae, super altaria singula, habent velamina lineo pro Quadragesimali. 5 Mappa manuum, sudaria, manitergia; deest eorum catalogus. Sex aurea tapetes, & pulvinaria templi. 4 Aulea magna, molliori lana, byssinis filis immixtis fabricata; quibus regia insignia simulatque fundatoris sunt intertexta, cum florum varietate; continent horum singula plus 19 ulnas mensurae Scotiae ad quadrum; stragulum unum, quo pavimentum ante magnum altare sternitur, floribus ac domini fundatoris insignibus contextum; duo tapetes ad sedis rectoris Aberdonen. ornatum, quibus fundatoris insignia cum floribus intextuntur. Pulvinaria 5, duo majoris cum insignibus domini fundatoris confecta; duo majoris cum insignibus Andreae Elphinston; quintum ex molliore lana, cum bysso & agno altaris contextum. Haec 3 dono praefati domini a Kinkell. Item, una parva vestis atrabascensis. pro coperiendo ambone ligneo; alio ad similem usum, cum cuniculis contexta.

*Libri chori & templi collegij.* 5 Antiphonalia, & 7 psalteria, omnia membrana, characteribus aureis, argenteis & azureis, rubrisque capitalibus exarata, divorum effigibus, auri, argenti, atque colorum varietate gratissima, ut historiae principia deponunt, depicta. 4 Breviaria ex membrana, quorum duo Mr. Joan. Harvie, rector de Benhome, olim rector universitatis Parisiensis, collegio donavit: Aliud vero cum parvo psalterio praefatus rector de Clatt. Duae legendae; altera de tempore, altera de sanctis; duo gradalia;

gradualia; unum epistolare; unum evangelium; unum martyrologium; liber ad organistae usum accommodatus ordinarius. Evangelium principalium festorum, cum calendario obituum, dono magistri Alexandri Galloway, rectoris de Kinkell. 4 Missalia; quorum unum capitalibus elementis aureis, rubris & azureis, artificiosis pictoris adjectis. Item, 8 processionalia; & 2 libri rubricorum pro juvenibus; omnes in pergamena scripti. 9 magnus liber, *Vocabularium Catholicum* dictus. Rationale dominorum bene ligatum.

*Capulae vasorum argenteorum.* Pro majore monstrantia, capula ex corio. Item, pro duobus candelabris argenteis duae; item, pro 2 thuribus duae; item, pro majoribus calicibus. Corinae templi deest catalogus.

*Parva tabulae templi.* Una habens effigiem divae Virginis Mariae, opere redimitico contextam; alia, super quam depingitur gloriosa virgo; alia, habens effigiem divae Catherinae; alia, super quam depingitur Johannes Elphinston, miles, coram imagine crucifixi, ad altare beatae Mariae Virginis, dono praefati rectoris de Clatt. Alia, habens effigiem dominæ nostrae de Loretto, ad idem altare. Alia, habens effigiem crucifixi, pendens super solium organorum; dono magistri Joannis Vaus, olim grammatici hujus collegii. In folio organorum, organa ipsa, cum imagine divae Virginis in superiore parte eorundem.

*Ornamenta rectoris.* Baculus rectoris, argenti; cum armis regis, & fundatoris, ponderis . . . argenti. Alius baculus, argentatus in quinque partibus, dono praefati rectoris de Kinkell. Cappa lutea (vulgo, *a scarlet cape*) pro rectore, cum caputio; & per eundem alia parva cappa rectoris, absque caputio. Vestes atrabascens, pro ornatu sedis rectoris, prius scriptæ sunt.

*Ornamenta facultatis artium.* Imprimis, quatuor rotundae cappae, cum novem caputijs, pro eisdem societatis. Item, una cappa pro doctore, cum caputio concurrente. Item, una parva cappa nigra, absque caputio. Item, quatuor epitologia, quorum 3 ex tela rubra Anglicana; & unum . . . Franche Brown, cum quatuor caputijs; una, viz. ex Franche Brown, una ex tela rubra, & 2 nigris. Item, 11 caputia Baccalaureorum artium.

Campana



*Campana & Campanula.* Quinque campanae magnae; viz. 1. Trinitas, (Diam. 5 Ped. 5 U.) cum hac inscriptione, *Trinitate sacra fiat haec campana beata.* 2. Maria cum hac inscriptione, *Protege, precor, pia, quos convoco, Sancta Maria.* 3. Michael, *En annuncio vobis novum gaudium, quod erit omni populo.* Per me Geo. Weyhevens, MDXIX. 4. Vocor Gabriel. *Cantate Domino canticum novum bene.* Psallite ei in vociferatione. Per Geo Weyhevens, MDXIX. 5. Raphael. *Cantate Domino canticum novum bene.* Psallite ei in vociferatione. Per Geo Weyhevens, MDXIX. 5 Parvae campanae, pro media horae signanda, cum totidem ferreis malleis. 2 Cappae ad quotidianum usum. Sunt pariter in templo 3 parvae campanae; quarum una ad praecipuum altare Sancti Germani; & 3tia ad altare beatae Mariae, ad usum ibidem in sacris. Et pariter in campanili horologium magnum, ferreum, cum malleo ad horas signandas: ponderis . . . Magna Chorda (by Cabell) longitudinis . . .

*Ornamenta aulae.* 3 Aulea magna; quorum unum divae Annae, cum suis historijs, effigies est intexta; reliqua 2, virorum mulierumque simulacra. 5 Aulea magna, animalium, arborum, & florum effigiebus contexta. Arma pertinentia ad communitatem collegij. Imprimis, 12 axes; item, 7 spears, dono magistri Arthuri Boethij; item, 2 iron guns without stocks, and 4 chalmers and stone calms thereto; item, 2 gun-stocks, one of them broken; 4 chalmers and calms of brass; item, 3 hagbuts, with calms of stone; item, 1 halbert; item, back and fore geare. Quae continebantur in cubiculis, coquina, pomario, domo polentaria, hardinaria, granaria, & penu cerevisiarum, omittuntur.

**VISITATIO** collegij regij Aberdonen. per venerabilem & egregium virum, magistrum Alex'um Galloway, ecclesiae cathedralis Aberdonen. canonicum, & de Kinkell in eadem nuncupatum prebendarum, ac ejusdem universitatis rectorem: una cum egregijs & venerabilibus viris, magistris & dominis, Patricio Myton, archidiacono Aberdonen. Alexandro Spittal, Jacobo Wavine & Duncano Burnett, dictae ecclesiae similiter canonicis, atque de Clatt, Oyne, & Methlick, respective prebendarijs, ad praemissa facien-

da per eandem Universitatem communiter electis, apud dictum collegium, 8vo Id. Augusti, per inquisitionem proborum hominum, magistrorum, factam; anno post restitutam humano generi salutem nono & quadragesimo, sequimillesimo, uti in codicillis desuper edictis prolixius caveatur; penes praenotatum rectorum remanem. 1349.

Tum deinceps praemissa (ut praefatur) visitatione, 14to kal. Sept. anni jam citati, per reverendum in Christo patrem ac dominum D. Gulielmum Gordon, Aberdonen. antistitem, suprafatae Universitatis cancellarium dignissimum; talis ut sequitur in dicto collegio erratorum compertorum, cum concilio & avisamento rectoris & visitorum supradictorum, facta est reformatio, & delictorum ibidem commissorum correctio.

Imprimis, pro reformatione personarum principalium, &c. *Cetera desunt.*

Anno 1726, the Abstract of the Rents of the Archbishoprick of St. Andrews, and other eight Bishopricks in Scotland; taken from the Exchequer Rental.

| ST. ANDREWS.                           |           | £.                          | s.        | d.  |
|--|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----|
| The whole money yearly rent extends to | 5973      | 2                           | 8         |     |
|  | Bear.     | B. F. P. L.                 |           |     |
| The wheat yearly is                    | 188 2 2   | 421 13 3                    | 609 3 3   | 1   |
|  |           | Small oats.                 |           |     |
| Great oats                             | 652 1 2 0 | 251 0 2 0                   | 903 2 0 0 |     |
|  |           | Meal.                       |           |     |
| Muirland oats                          | 64 0 0 0  | 59 2 0 0                    | 123 2 0 0 |     |
|  |           | For the Teind-yard of oats. |           |     |
| Pease yearly is                        | 6 0 0 0   | 57 2 0 0                    | 63 2 0 0  |     |
|  |           | Pease for ditto Teind-yard. |           |     |
| Bean for ditto                         | 84 0 2 0  | 48 0 0 0                    | 132 0 2 0 |     |
| Teind-yard                             |           |                             |           |     |
| The total of victual,                  |           | 1832                        | 2         | 1 1 |

# EDINBURGH.

|  | £.          | s. | d.   |
|--|-------------|----|------|
| The whole yearly money rent extends to | 4983        | 2  | 4    |
|  | B. F. P. L. |    |      |
| The wheat yearly out of Mid-Lothian,   | 31          | 1  | 3 33 |
| Ditto, out of Haddington shire         | 16          | 0  | 0 0  |
| Meal out of New Abbey,                 | 12          | 2  | 0 0  |

Ditt

|                           | B. | F. | P. | L. |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Ditto out of Mid-Lothian  | 39 | 2  | 2  | 0  |
| Bear out of Haddington,   | 20 | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| Ditto out of Mid-Lothian, | 45 | 1  | 1  | 2  |
| Oats out of Haddington,   | 51 | 2  | 1  | 2  |
| Ditto out of Mid-Lothian, | 43 | 3  | 2  | 2  |
| Bear out of New Abbey,    | 26 | 0  | 0  | 0  |

The total of the victual is 689 1 3

### GALLOWAY.

The rent of the Bishoprick is paid in money, which is 626 1 8 0

The most of this Bishoprick's rent is paid to the dean of the Chapel-Royal; now to the King's chaplains, minister of Dunblane, and school-master, who have about 350l. sterling paid them; and there remains payable to the Exchequer, only 547 8 0

### DUNKELD.

The whole yearly money rent is 1662 17 6

The victual is gifted to the ministers of Meigle and Dunkeld.

### MURRAY.

The yearly money rent is 1807 19 0

Item, 300 loads of peats converted to 60 0 0

### B. F. P. L.

Item, Bear yearly, 105 0 0 0

### ABERDEEN.

The whole rent, reckoning the victual at

4l. 3s. 4d. Scots, is 3519 3 8

### BRICHEN.

The money rent, including customs and converted oats, 1239 13 2

Wheat yearly, 11 0 0 0

Bear yearly, 112 3 0 0

Meal yearly, 161 3 0 0

The total of victual is 285 2 0 0



## CAITHNESS.

The yearly money rent is —

£. s. d.

1420 4 9

B. F. P. L.

The victual yearly is —

218 1 1 2

## ROSS.

This bishop has paid him yearly in money, 1771. 11 9

With 639 bolls, 2 firlots of bear.

## ORKNEY.

This bishop has paid him yearly in money,

Malt, meal, bear, butter, oil, and flesh,

when converted comes to the sum of Scots 6193 19 4

## ARGYLE.

This bishop has paid yearly in total Scots, 1651 13 4

## ISLES.

£. s. d.

The bishop of the Isles has paid him yearly,

Scots,

3037 0 0

Besides 96 bolls of victual.

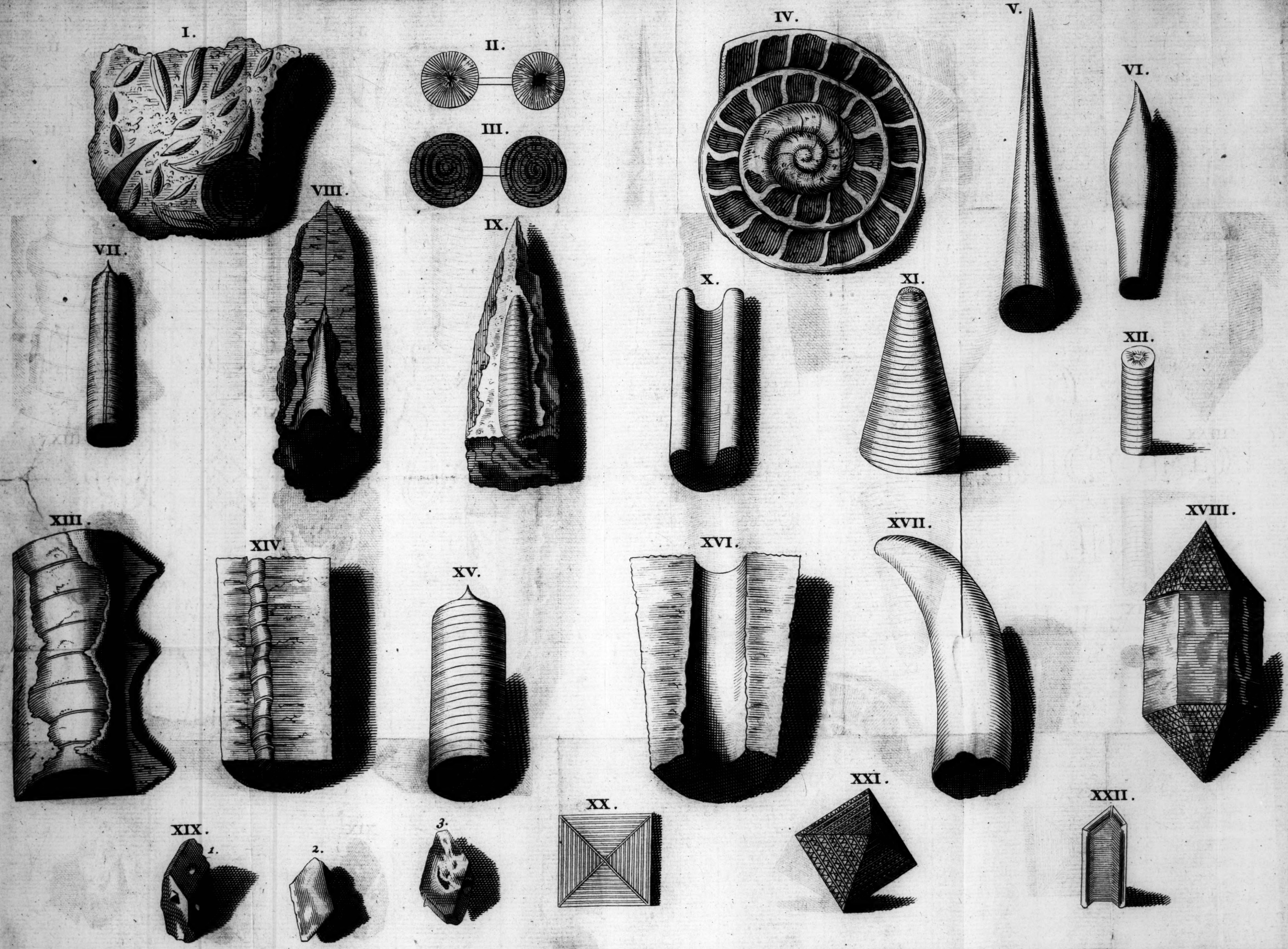
## The Archbishop of GLASGOW.

As to this archbishoprick, its fruit and yearly rent are allocate, and payable out of a multitude of distinct subjects, which therefore cannot be certainly known without taking an extract thereof from the Record, which, being very long, would consequently cost a good deal of charges: but, however, (without condescending on the particular payments and allocations) it is thought, the curious may rest satisfied to be informed; That there being a tack of the rents of this bishoprick granted by the Exchequer to the college of Glasgow, the said college pays of yearly tack-duty for the same the sum of 55 l. 14s. 10 d. sterling.

Some remarkable passages concerning the KING'S COLLEGE in OLD ABERDEEN, which was dedicated to the blessed Virgin Mary.

King James IV. and William Elphinston procured from pope Alexander VI. the privilege of an University in Aberdeen, anno 1494; and the college was founded by the said William Elphinston, bishop of Aberdeen, anno 1500, and







and by the said King James, as witness the inscription above the West door of college-chapel, which is as followeth:

*"Per ferenissimum, illustrissimum, ac invictissimum, J. IV. R. 4 nonas Aprilis, anno millesimo quintesimo, hoc insigne Collegium latomi inceperunt aedificari."*

This chapel was richly adorned in the time of Popery, but was spoiled of all its rich ornaments in the beginning of the Reformation. It has three domes, and had twelve windows, but one of them was closed up, anno 1715. It is well paved with stones. There is an hearse in it; and the bishop's seat or pulpit is in the East end thereof, where the altar stood formerly, with the presbytery's desks on every side thereof; also in this chapel there is a middle wall of timber, and above it an excellent loft with a pulpit on the left side thereof where the priest preached; and bishop Elphinston's desk below the said loft yet remains entire.

But in the East end of the said chapel the mass was performed, where yet there are stalls and seats remaining for the prebends and masters of the college. In it likewise is the organ-loft entire; but, anno 1642, principal Guild caused take down the organ case.

This chapel is well covered with lead, with a spire in the middle thereof, and is well built with buttresses for strengthening its walls.

Bishop Elphinston built the steeple with buttresses; and on the top whereof were built four arches, supporting a crown, with a globe and cross, which was beaten down by an extraordinary storm of wind in principal Leslie's time, anno 1633 (as saith Mr. Spalding in his Annals), the 7th day of February.

This stately crown, which hath been built of ashler work, was re-edified and built up again, little inferior to the first, by George Thomson, architect, anno 1634; as witness his name, with the said year of God, upon the West side of the said crown, which yet may be seen.

It is reported, that the masters of the college entered into a contract with the said George Thomson, to rebuild the said arches and crown for ten thousand merks Scots; but before the half of the work was built the money was



spent, whereupon he desisted from building. Then the said masters put him in prison; but at last they were forced to take him out of prison, and give him daily wages while the work was performed as it now stands.

Anno 1719, the masters of the college are fearing the falling down again of this crown, which is one of the best monuments that is in the nation; whereanent they are asking advice from the King's mason what way it must be supported from falling.

Bishop Elphinston furnished the aforesaid steeple with thirteen tunable bells, and built the most part of the fabric of the college, as said Boethius in the Lives of the Bishops of Aberdeen. Upon the North buttrage and West end of the aforesaid chapel there is a coat of arms, which is probably one of the royal family who has married a lady out of England, as appears by the armorial coats.

Item, There are upon the buttrages of the West side of the said steeple two coats of arms; the first, towards the North, is the King of Scotland, pretty clear, viz. the red lion, and the two supporters are two unicorns, with the crown above; the motto above the said crown is IN DEFENCE; and the year of God above all, 1509.

The other coat of arms next the college-gate seems to be the archbishop's of St. Andrew's; it has a lion, with two angels for supporters, with A. S.

There is another coat of arms above the back-door of the aforesaid chapel, like unto this former.

When bishop Elphinston had built the most part of the college, he called Mr. Hector Boethius, bachelor of divinity, from the University of Paris, to be principal of this college; and after he came here, the said bishop Elphinston graduated him doctor of divinity, and to that solemnity the town of Aberdeen sent over a puncheon of wine with a great many confections, or else to pay ten merks to them.

This Mr. Hector Boethius was born in Dundee, and brought up in letters in the said University of Paris; was descended from the Boeths of Panbride in Angus; for he saith in his History of Scotland, That king David II. ap-

pointed a council at Perth, and commanded all them who had done any thing for defence of the kingdom, or had their fathers slain at the battles of Duplin and Halydon-hill, to be given him in bill, that he might reward them according to merit.

At last, when they were all convened, he rewarded them with gold, silver, and jewels.

Among sundry others that were rewarded at this time, Hugh Boyes, grandfather to the said Mr. Hector, got in recompence of his father's slaughter at Duplin, the heirs and lady of the barony of Balbride or Panbride, given to him in marriage; which barony is yet possessed by the heirs of the said Hugh. This account he gives of his own genealogy.

Gavin Dunbar, bishop of Aberdeen, built the South quarter of the college, for building of which bishop Elphinston left money; also the said bishop Dunbar built the houses belonging to the prebendaries, and performed whatever bishop Elphinston left unfinished.

But because principal Boethius would not allow bishop Dunbar to place his name and armorial coat upon the South work and college, he caused build it up roughly without good workmanship or contrivance; whereupon the masters of the college have begun to repair it.

William Stewart, bishop of Aberdeen, built the library, chapter-house, vestry-house, a school, and chambers for the chaplains.

Bishop Elphinston annexed the parsonage of Stow to the college, and also the parsonage of St. Peters, whereby the subprincipal is subcantor.

Robert Maitland, dean of Aberdeen, procured the annexation of the deanry to the college, whereby the principal thereof is now dean.

This annexation was in anno 1579.

Walter Stewart, principal, procured the annexation of the rectory of Methlick. Bishop Elphinston died at Edinburgh. His body was embalmed and brought to Aberdeen, and was interred on the first step to the high altar in the said college-chapel, under a double black marble stone, anno 1514; and principal Boethius lies beside him, under a blue stone.

Anno 1640, Dr. William Guild was chosen principal of the college.

The first work that he began, he entered George Ronald, mason, to the Snow-Kirk, to cast down the walls thereof, and caused transport the stones to build the college-yard dykes, and to employ the hewn-work to the decayed chamber windows within the said college, whereat many people in the Old Town murmured, because of old it was their parish church, and many of their friends and ancestors lay interred in it.

Anno 1640, Mr. Robert Ogilvie, subprincipal of the college, got Mr. William Strachan's kirk at Methlick, and Mr. Alexander Middleton was chosen subprincipal.

Anno 1643, upon Tuesday January 17, the said Mr. Alexander Middleton subprincipal, was married with Margaret Gordon, daughter to Mr. Thomas Gordon at Kathock's Mill, contrary to the foundation of the college, for he was the first regent that entered in a marriage condition in this college.

Anno 1694, the assembly gave commission to reform the college, and expel the malignants; whereupon doctor William Guild principal, (albeit he had taken the covenant at his entry without limitations,) Mr. Alexander Middleton subprincipal, Mr. Patrick Gordon and Mr. George Middleton regents, were all turned out of the college, anno 1651.

Anno 1652, the principal's place was conferred upon Mr. John Row, minister in Aberdeen; and the subprincipal's upon Mr. Gilbert Rewle. The said Mr. John Row had been twenty years master of the school of St. Johnston, where he had the most flourishing school in this nation. But Mr. Andrew Cant brought him from thence to Aberdeen, anno 1641, where he underwent his trials, and thereafter was made minister of Aberdeen.

When he was principal, the foundation of the new work was laid, in the North-East corner of the college, fix stories high, consisting of twenty-four chambers. The money for building this work was gotten from the masters, and other well-disposed persons, whose names are inserted in a register pertaining to the college.

Above



Above the entry-gate of the said new work there is a free stone fixed into the wall, with the names of the masters of the college cut out upon it, viz. Mr. John Row, principal; Mr. Patrick Sandilands, subprincipal; Mr. John Strachan, Mr. Andrew Maffie, and Mr. William Johnston, regents.

The said Mr. John Strachan was the best scholar that ever was in the college. But the Cants and the rest of the clergy in Aberdeen had prejudice at him, because he was a royalist; and because his uncle Sir John Strachan was with King Charles II.

At last, the said Strachan was to graduate his scholars of the magistrand class; and after he had printed his theses, and distributed them, and the day appointed for the graduation in the common-school of the college, then Mr. Andrew Cant, regent in Marischall college, and the rest of the clergy, accused Mr. Strachan for his theses, and said he had set down popish positions in them. But Mr. Strachan told them, he would defend all that was inserted in his theses; whereupon the diet of graduation was altered, and a new diet to be at St. Machar's Church in Old Aberdeen. When the day came, there was a great confluence of gentry from all places of the country, who came to St. Machar's church. Thence came over the Cants, and Mr. Menzies, and all the rest of the clergy of Aberdeen, and with them Mr. Alexander Cant, minister of Nether-Banchory, and placed themselves in the Marquees of Huntley's loft, opposite to the pulpit; for Mr. Strachan had taken the pulpit, and no person with him but professor Douglas, who sat in the latron, and principal Row sat alone in the college-loft.

Mr. Strachan began with a prayer, and after had a long harangue; which being ended he invited them to impugn his theses.

Then they began to object, and he answered their arguments readily; but to his solutions they all answered *una voce*, which made a great confusion in the disputations. Yet learned men said, that Mr. Strachan had the better of it that day. This dispute continued long; at last, when it was ended, and the people dismissed, coming out of

of the church door, Mr. Strachan accuses young Mr. Andrew Cant, regent, for some reflecting answer he had given him in the time of the dispute, and would have trampled him under his feet, if the gentry had not interposed and taken Mr. Strachan away with them. For Mr. Strachan was a gentleman, and a pretty man both in parts and in body, and undervalued all the Cants. His father was Mr. Alex. Strachan, minister of Logie-Durno, and parson of Fetterneir.

Before the dispute, Mr. Strachan graduated his class; and the earl of Aberdeen, who became chancellor of Scotland, was first graduated; then the rest. And immediately thereafter, Mr. Strachan dimitted in favours of Mr. George Gordon, with consent of the college, because he could not live in peace with the Covenanters. And thereafter, the said Mr. Strachan went abroad and studied physick. Then he came home to see his father and his friends; and after that he went again abroad, turned popish, and died abroad, &c.

After the said Mr. George Gordon had staid four years in the college, and graduated a class, he went abroad and studied the laws, came home, and became laird of Haddo, President of the Session, Earl of Aberdeen, and Chancellor of Scotland, as said is.

Principal Row was a man who was well seen in the Latin, Greek, and Hebrew languages, and had great authority in the college; but, anno 1661, he demitted his charge after King II's restoration. For he was a Covenanter, and had written some things in his books against the royal family; which books were taken out of the college, and had to the cross of Aberdeen, and burnt by the hand of the hangman.

Thereafter he went to New Aberdeen, and took up a private school; for he had laid nothing up to maintain himself when he was out of place, and therefore lived by keeping the said school, and for the most part by charity. At last, he went to Kinellar, and staid with Mr. John Mercer, his son-in-law, and daughter; where at last he died, and was interred at the West end of the church of Kinellar, in the church-yard.

Anno

Anno 1665, Mr. Alexander Middleton, minister in Old Aberdeen, who formerly had been subprincipal, was chosen principal of the college. He was a good, honest, well-living man.

In his time the college flourished, and he caused good order to be kept therein. He was graduated doctor of divinity by bishop Halyburton of Aberdeen, 1685.

In his time the new work of the college above-mentioned was plenished within as it now remains. He continued a long time principal, till a little before his death, that with consent of the masters he resigned his place in favour of his son after-mentioned.

Then succeeded to be principal doctor George Middleton (son to Dr. Alexander Middleton afore said), who is a great and excellent humanist, philosopher, and divine. He was first minister at the church of Glames; from thence called to the college in Old Aberdeen, where he was five years regent; then seven subprincipal, and thirty-five principal. He was graduated doctor of divinity by the archbishop of St. Andrew's, and is a man of a singular life and conversation, qualified to be a principal in any University in the kingdom.

Anno 1716, the visitors of schools and colleges who had gotten a commission from King George for that effect, their number was twenty, but only fifteen of the said number came to Aberdeen, August 29, and year afore said; and did every thing by information of the presbyterian clergy and magistrates of Aberdeen; and thereafter the said visitors charged all the masters of the King's college to appear before them at Edinburgh upon the 7th of April, 1717, except Dr. Urquhart, professor of physick; Mr. David Anderson, professor of divinity; and Mr. George Gordon, professor of languages.

At which time they deposed Dr. James Urquhart and Mr. Richard Gordon, two hopeful young men, regents in the said college, and discharged the masters from the privilege of electing new regents to fill the vacancies. And then summoned all the masters against the 4th day of



of June, 1717, except Mr. David Anderfon, to appear before them, concerning the college revenues. At which time they depofed Dr. George Middleton, principal of the faid King's college, and Mr. John Gordon, civilift there. And the reft of the mafters are of new fufpended and fummoned the third time to appear before the faid visitors at Edinburgh, upon the 18th day of July, 1717.

Anno 1717, November 3, the minifters of the Old and New Towns of Aberdeen, with the magiftrates thereof, entered at Aberdeen the young Laird of Troup, advocate at Edinburgh, to be civilift in the King's college, which way of entering is againft the foundation of the college, and has not been praftifed formerly.

Anno 1717, upon the 19th of November, came Mr. Chalmers, minifter at Kilwinning, to Old Aberdeen, to be principal of the King's college, and two young men with him; the one called Mr. Bradfut, and the other Mr. Ker, to be regents in the faid college. And, upon the 22d of the faid month, they came to the college by themfelves; and faid, they had prefentations from King George, which the visitors had purchafed them. But, principal Middleton, and the faid Mr. John Gordon, Dr. James Urquhart, and Mr. Richard Gordon, protested againft them.

The new principal, Mr. Chalmers, and his new regents, fummoned principal Middleton, Dr. James Urquhart, and Mr. Richard Gordon, before the fheriff, to obtain a Decreet of Ejection againft them out of the college. But, in the interim, they got a Sift from the Lords of Seflion; and the action was to come before the faid Lords, and from them to the parliament. But the faid Mr. Chalmers went South, and got a warrant from the visitors, to break up the chamber doors belonging to principal Middleton, and to the faid Dr. James Urquhart and Mr. Richard Gordon. Whereupon the faid Mr. Chalmers and his new regents, caufed break up the faid doors in the college, March 31, 1718.

Anno 1718, upon 17th of April, the faid new principal and his regents did chufe the Laird of Echt, elder, to be rector

rector of the King's college in Old Aberdeen, who is a bigot presbyterian.

Anno 1718, upon the 25th of April, the said new principal and his new regents caused the sheriff of Aberdeen break up the doors of principal Middleton's lodging, which is near to the college, and ejected his plenishing (they having gotten at last decreet before the Sheriff for that effect), and for doing whereof the said sheriff was well rewarded.

Anno 1718, in the end of August, Mr. Chalmers, principal, went to London, to get an augmentation of his salary, and money to repair the college; and before he went thither, every one of the masters gave him five pounds sterling, which, with his proportion, made fifty pounds sterling, for bearing of his expences; and what more he should happen to be at, the masters must pay their shares thereof.

The masters were never so treated formerly by their principals.

Anno 1718, in the month of December, the masters of the college got forty-six young trees out of Mr. Mitchell's large yard in the chanonry, present minister of St. Machar's church in Old Aberdeen, which trees had been planted by the deceased Mr. Corse, sometime minister of said church; and the masters of the said college have planted them upon the East side of the college-yard and office-houses, and have planted about thirty-two trees more, near to the threshing barn, and great way that goeth to the links, anno 1725.

Anno 1719, the 1st of June, the said principal Chalmers returned to Aberdeen from London, and told the masters, That he was obliged to sight the college, what it would need to repair it, and he should get supply. Accordingly the said principal Chalmers called tradesmen to the college, and desired them to consider how much money would be needful to repair the college, support the crown thereof, and its chapel, and the principal's lodging. At last, when the said tradesmen had sighted the college, and considered what preparations it would need, they declared it would take three thousand pounds sterling;

ing; but whether the college will get so much money from the government is uncertain.

The ivory crown of ivory flowers was made by Mrs. Lees, whose husband was a principal man of advocate Black's factory in Old Aberdeen. This crown is large, and is made up of several sorts of coloured flowers, which the students of the magistrand class bought, and gave her sixty pounds Scots for it. It hangs yearly in the common school, in time of graduations, and at other times in the bibliothek.

The turret and spire on the top of the new work of the said college was built, anno 1675, by David Murray, mason, and John Scott, plumber, leaded it; in which is a little room for keeping the mathematical instruments pertaining to the college.

Anno 1715, upon Candlemas-day, the South-East turret or spire at the end of the common hall of the said college, was turned down by an extraordinary great wind which happened the aforesaid day.

The aforesaid bishop Elphinston built the principal's two chambers, one whereof is a large room well adorned with several pictures. Also, he gave several hangings to the college, which are made use of at the time of graduations. These chambers are well covered with lead.

Likewise, the said bishop Elphinston built the common school and common hall of the said college, in which hall there are two folding tables for the masters and gentlemen's sons to dine and sup at; and six long old-fashioned tables for the use of the bursars to dine and sup at. But the bursars complained some years ago that they were not well entertained in the said college, therefore they got liberty to board themselves where they pleased in the town of Old Aberdeen.

There is in the said common hall a large and high pulpit of wainscot for one of the bursars to read church history at the time of dinner and supper; and when dinner and supper are ended, he reads a chapter of the Bible, and sings some part of a psalm.

There are also in the said common hall about twenty-one



one pictures of several persons, hanging about the walls thereof, many of which are much defaced.

Only the picture of Queen Mary of Scotland and that of Mr. George Buchanan remain yet clear. This common hall is also covered with lead.

William Stewart, bishop of Aberdeen, built the bibliothek of the college, as witness his name upon it; and it is well covered with lead, as is said, and well plenished with books.

The office-houses were removed out of the college, and built upon the East side of the common hall, anno 1703.

The armorial coat of the King's college in Old Aberdeen is a can with three lillies springing out of it, a book with a hand, with three salmon fishes.

The King's armorial coat is very well cut out of stone, and affixed above the entry gate of the said college.

The timber muses or little chambers at the East end of the college chapel, were built when the building of the said new work was built, in which there is a bell that is rung at several hours, both in the day and night time; and the chimneys of the said timber muses going up through the wall of said new work, shew that the said timber muses were built with the said new work now called the square-work of the college.

The masters of the college began to build of new the South side of the college, anno 1707.

Anno 1719, principal Chalmers and his new regents pursue doctor Middleton late principal of the King's college; first, because he had kept three thousand merks of the college money dry, and had neither paid debt with it, nor lent it out upon interest. Secondly, when he had the keeping of the bibliothek, there were two magistrand classes, viz. one of Mr. Black's, and another of Mr. George Frazer's, subprincipal, who had not paid in their money to the Bibliothek, viz. each of them that were graduated at that time 41 Scots. Thirdly, for going South, and spending four hundred pounds sterling, to bring Mr. Sympson to be a regent in the said college.

However, at last Dr. Middleton was content to submit this action to two persons; the college to choose one, and

he would choose another. So they chose young Echt, and Dr. Middleton Affleck, and, with both consents, colonel Buchan was chosen oversman.

There was a submission drawn and signed by both parties and the arbitrators and oversman. They met at Aberdeen the first Monday of November, 1719, where the action was debated for two or three days; and Dr. Middleton made his innocency to appear of all the aforesaid things laid to his charge.

Principal Chalmers seeing that the action would go against him, instrumented young Echt that he should do nothing in that action; and also instrumented colonel Buchan that he neither should do any thing in that affair. But notwithstanding Colonel Buchan pronounced the decret in favour of Dr. Middleton; and Mr. Chalmers and his new regents will not get it reduced, as judicious men relate; and also, there were five hundred merks of failzie, contained in the said submission. But notwithstanding the said principal Chalmers raised a summons of reduction against Mr. Middleton; and caused give him a summons before the Lords of Session upon the 13th of January, to that effect; and reducing the said decret-arbitral pronounced by the aforesaid colonel Buchan.

Anno 1721, in the month of January, the said principal Chalmers reduced the abovementioned decret-arbitral before the Lords of Session; which was contrary to the judgment of learned men.

But Dr. Middleton hath appealed to the parliament, and the said Lords of Parliament have determined against the said Mr. Chalmers; and he is obliged to pay the failzie of five hundred merks contained in the submission.

Several years ago the lady Barns claimed the Balfield of the grammar-school of the Old Town college, as pertaining to the lands of Sunnie-Side, which lies between the canonist's gleib and the fir-hill of Sunnie-Side; concerning which Balfield there rose a great dispute between the humanist of the said college and the said Lady Barns. At last it was referred to arbitrators, &c. and the said college feued out the said Balfield to the Lady Barns for 3s. sterling in the year of feu-duty.

Anno

Anno 1720, upon the 2d of February, principal Chalmers preached first in the college chapel, where he caused all the masters of the college, with the students, and the humanist with his scholars, come to the said college chapel, and be his hearers, upon the aforesaid day of February being Monday, and resolved to preach every Monday, in the said chapel. It belongs to his office to preach in the said chapel.

Mr. George Gordon entered into the college in King William's time, to be professor of the Oriental languages, and hath twelve hundred merks of the bishop's rents for his salary yearly.

Doctor Urquhart, college physician, hath set his gleib to a tenant, for which the said tenant pays yearly twenty pounds Scots, 1720.

Item, the canonist's gleib is set to a tenant, and he pays yearly for it twenty-three pounds Scots, 1720.

Item, the humanist's gleib is set to a tenant, who pays yearly for it forty pounds Scots (which is too much) 1720.

Item, the civilist's gleib and yard is set to a tenant, for which he pays yearly nine firlots of bear; and the said tenant hath built a little house to himself, and upon his own expences, upon the yard dyke thereof to the street; and possesses the said gleib and yard, anno 1720.

On the seal of the said college (whereof the face is silver), is cut out the college armorial coat, with this inscription, *Sigillum Universitatis beate Mariæ Aberdonensis*. And with it are stamped all the seals upon white and red wax, in a white iron box; and are appended to all the charters which the masters of this college grant to their vassals. And one of the said masters, who is keeper of this seal, gets for every seal he stamps four pounds and four shillings Scots.

Mr. Chalmers, principal of the King's college, having suspended Dr. Middleton's five merks of Failzie decreet by the Lords of Parliament, and ordained by them to be paid to the said doctor Middleton; this year, 1722, at the discussing of the said suspension, the Lords of Session at Edinburgh have determined in favour of the said college, and against the said Dr. Middleton, notwithstanding of the decret of the Lords of Parliament.



Anno 1721, Dr. Middleton, late principal of the King's college, summoned Mr. Chalmers principal, Mr. Bradfut, Mr. Kerr, and the laird of Troup, younger, civilist, for turning the said Dr. Middleton, Dr. James Urquhart, regent, Mr. John Gordon, civilist, and Mr. Richard Gordon, regent, out of their places, without law or any fault; and also all the rest of the masters of the said college were summoned to appear before the Lords of Session at Edinburgh, upon the 15th of June and 22d of the same month, for first and second diets. This copy was laid on upon the 20th day of May, and year aforesaid. If the said Lords of the Session determine against Dr. Middleton, Mr. John Gordon, Dr. James Urquhart, and Mr. Richard Gordon, they will appeal to the parliament.

In the end of March, anno 1724, Mr. Alexander Frazer, sub-principal in the King's college, Old Aberdeen, did buy the civilist's place from the laird of Troup, younger, for the use and behoof of Alexander Frazer, advocate, his son; and gives the said laird of Troup, younger, for it four thousand five hundred merks Scots.

Dr. Patrick Urquhart died on St. Thomas's even, December 20, anno 1725, in the 84th year of his age; and had been 54 years physician in the King's college of Old Aberdeen. He was a man of learning and parts; a son of the family of Meldrum, and his mother was a daughter of the Earl of Airly, &c.

The laird of Glenfarquhar in the Mearns left in legacy seven burfes to the schools at the churches of Camvey and Fordoun in the said Mearns, with rents for their maintenance. But Newton Falconer, who fell heir to the said Glenfarquhar, reduced the seven burfars at the school of Camvey and Fordoun before the parliament of Great Britain to four burfes. Also, he hath reduced the seven burfes at the King's college, before the said parliament, to four burfars. Each of the said four burfars at the King's college have yearly 80l. Scots. The said Newton Falconer, to free himself entirely of the said four burfars at the King's college, provided the stock of the said burfars money, and consigned it into the treasurer of Montrose's hands upon Martinmas day, anno 1722, which money was about ten thousand merks Scots.

Anno 1723, this year there is no college table kept in the college of Old Aberdeen; the like has not been these many years bygone, for this year there are no gentlemen's sons of distinction at the college.

Anno 1723, Mr. Frazer, who resided at London, and is a director of an hospital there, came this year to the King's college in Old Aberdeen, and gifted the masters of the said college some boxes with books; and also gave them 50l. sterling in bank notes. Item, the same Mr. Frazer is a great benefactor to the King's college in Old Aberdeen. He gifted to it other 500l. sterling, making in all with the aforesaid 50l. and another 50l. sterling 600l. and is to give 130l. every year that he lives. Item, he hath founded three bursars in the said college, viz. two for philosophy and one for divinity. Each of the bursars of philosophy gets yearly 54l. Scots. The bursar of divinity gets yearly 8l. sterling, and also is keeper of the library of the said college, for which he gets an half hour's entertainment at the college table.

The South side of the college was rebuilt from the common-hall (except a room length next the stair, as people pass up to the principal's chamber); it was perfected and leaded, anno 1726.

Dr. Gregory was immediately after Dr. Urquhart's death admitted physician in the King's college, anno 1725; and the said Dr. Gregory hath repaired his lodging belong to the college, anno 1727; and hath built to it a toofall, for giving it a better entry to the rooms than it had formerly, in which toofall he hath a little room for a study, and a little room below it beside the stair-case. He hath also repaired the garden dyke, and hath begun to inclose his gleib, a part whereof he hath inclosed with a stone dyke, and planted it within the aforesaid year, and hath inclosed the rest of his aforesaid gleib this year 1728.

The aforesaid Mr. Frazer at London, who is rector of Chelsea college this year 1727, hath given the masters of the King's college another 100l. sterling, which makes in all, with what he had formerly given, 700l. sterling.

Memorandum. The new college of St. Andrew's was accidentally burnt about the 20th of January, 1727, and Mr.

Mr. Hadden, professor of ecclesiastical history, was burnt in it.

King James IV. was the first who wrote Latin (of modern princes) with majesty and eloquence; the first of those excellencies were owing to that grandeur of his own genius, and the sublimity of his thoughts; but the purity of the language and elegance of the stile must be ascribed to the accurate pen of his secretary Mr. Patrick Ponter, abbot of Cambuskenneth, as saith Dr. Abercromby.

The œconomus of the King's college in Old Aberdeen hath yearly from the procurator of the said college 112l. of money, also six bolls of bear and six bolls of meal, with four stones of butter.

The janitor hath yearly from the college 24l. Scots money, and 24l. money aforesaid, to hire an house for himself. Item, he hath twenty shillings Scots from every burgh, and two shillings and sixpence sterling from libertines. Also, he hath the masters gratuity at New-Year's day; Item, the gratuity which noblemen and gentlemen give him who come to visit the college, before whom the said janitor carried the sceptre.

The subjanitor is the college officer, who gets yearly from the procurator of salary, two bolls of meal and 3l. Scots, to buy shoes to himself, and for that must go through three parishes, viz. Old Machar, New Machar, and the parish of Newhills, and gather in their rents and duties. He hath also one shilling sterling from every student who is a libertine, with some gratuity from the masters of the college at New-Year's day.

The cook of the said college had a croft in former times lying upon the South side of the mercate gate, as people pass by the mortar hole.

This croft would sow six firlots of bear; but it is a long time since this croft was taken from the cook.

The sacrist in the college in the time of popery was a priest and in holy orders, who kept the vestry, and took care of the bells.

Now the janitor of the college doth assume that title to himself, without any ground or authority.

Patrick Forbes of Corse, and minister of the gospel at the



the church of Keith, who was advanced to be bishop of Aberdeen anno 1618; he and the synod of Aberdeen provided money of their own, and bought the lands of Cairntrallion and Scotsmill, reckoned eight chalders of meal, bear, and money, to be a salary for a professor of divinity in the King's college of Old Aberdeen; which lands lie within the parish of Kinellar, and the sheriffdom of Aberdeen.

Here follows a list of those gentlemen who have been PROFESSORS of DIVINITY in the KING'S COLLEGE of OLD ABERDEEN.

The first professor was Dr. John Forbes, son to the said Patrick Forbes, bishop of Aberdeen. He was born May 2, 1593. After he had learned the grammar authors, he was put to the college of Old Aberdeen, anno 1607, where he studied philosophy, and thereafter went abroad to the Protestant University of Heydelberg in Germany, under the care of Dr. Paræus the famous theologus, and also to other Universities there, where he studied divinity, the Hebrew language, and the writings of the fathers, &c.

He returned home, anno 1619. The same year, at the time of a synod in Aberdeen, he is called to be professor of divinity in the said college.

He was examined upon several theological heads by Dr. William Forbes, dean of faculty, and sustained a dispute anent his theological theses, with applause of all of the clergy; and the same year on the 27th of April, he is declared professor of divinity in the said college. Several years thereafter he was called to be professor and minister of Aberdeen.

The second professor of divinity in the said college was Dr. Andrew Strachan (after Dr. Forbes was called to Aberdeen); he had been a regent in the said college, and after was called to be minister at the church of Logie-durno, alias called the chapel of Garrioch; from thence he was called to be professor of divinity in the said college.

His brother Mr. Alexander Strachan succeed him to the church of Logie-durno, anno 1635. The said Dr. Andrew, when he came to Old Aberdeen to be professor of

of divinity, lived in this post little above a year, while he died, and left his books to the library of the said college. *Erat homo de literis, & literatis optime meritus.*

After the death of the said Dr. Andrew Strachan, the aforesaid Dr. John Forbes was called back again to be professor in the said college, where he remained till the covenanters declared his place vacant, anno 1643, because he would not sign the covenant. He bought the lodging in the chaplain's for the use of a professor of divinity. He was a learned and an excellent scholar, as his writings do testify. He went to Holland anno 1644, where he staid two years, and returned anno 1646, and lived piously at his own house of Corse, where he died anno 1648, and is interred in the church yard of Leuchal.

The third professor of divinity, after Dr. Forbes's place was declared vacant, was Mr. William Douglas, minister of Forgue, chosen by the covenanters to be professor of divinity in the King's college. He was reckoned a great man among the covenanters, next to Mr. Alexander Henderson. He entered to be professor about the year 1644, and continued till Charles the Second's restoration, and then he joined the episcopal party, and kept his place. He had been sixteen years minister at the church at Forgue, and thereafter was professor of divinity in the King's college twenty-two years. He was well acquainted with the writings of the fathers, and a great disputer in the schools at graduations. He died anno 1666. He lies interred in the church-yard of St. Machar's church, under a grave-stone upon the South side of the said church, with an inscription upon the stone.

After the death of the said Mr. William Douglas, the professor's place was vacant the space of eight years.

The fourth professor that succeeded was Mr. Henry Scougal, son of Mr. Patrick Scougal, bishop of Aberdeen; he had been four years regent in the King's college, and thereafter was one year minister at the church of Auchterless; from whence he was called to be professor of divinity in said King's college. His theological thesis was *De objecto cultus religiosi*, at his admission, anno 1674. He continued to be professor the space of four years. He died

died anno 1671; and of his age 28. He left his books to the library of the college, and five thousand merks to the office of a professor of divinity in the said college. He lies interred in the college chapel on the North side thereof, opposite to the high altar now called the bishop's seat or desk; with an inscription upon the wall above his grave; viz.

Memoriæ Sacrum.

“Henricus Scougal, reverendi in Christopatris, Patricii, episcopi Aberdonensis, filius; philosophiæ in hac academia regia per quadrennium, totidemque annis, ibidem theologiæ professor: ecclesiæ in Auchterless uno anno interstite pastor. Multa in tam brevissimo curriculo didicit, præstitit, docuit. Cœli avidus & cœlo maturus obiit Anno Dom. MDCLXXVIII. Ætatis suæ xxviii. Et hic exuvias mortalitatis posuit.”

Thereafter the office of professor of divinity was vacant about two years.

The 5th professor that succeeded was Dr. James Gairden, the son of Mr. Alexander Gairden, minister of the gospel at the church of Forgeue. The said Dr. James was first minister at the church of New Machar; and thereafter at the church of Bombie in Fife; and was called from thence to be professor in divinity in the King's college of Old Aberdeen, anno 1681. His theological thesis was *De gratiæ efficacia*. He performed the office and duty of a professor with great applause; and continued in the said office until he was put from his post about the beginning of the late Revolution by the presbyterians, anno 1697, though he was a learned, devout, and religious man, and of a circumspect life and conversation.

Afterwards he lived peaceably and quietly, serving God in his own family. At last he died in Old Aberdeen, April 8, 1726, about the 80th year of his age, and was interred upon the 11th day of the said April in St. Machar's church yard, near to the South-East dyke thereof, opposite to Dr. Middleton's brick house, which stands at the East end of bishop Gavin Dunbar's isle.

After Dr. James Gairden was put from his place, the office



office of a professor of divinity in the said college was sometime vacant.

The 6th and first presbyterian professor of divinity in the King's college, since the late Revolution, was Mr. George Anderson, minister of the gospel at Tarves. His theological theses at his admission was *De predestinatione*, anno ——. He remained not long in office; he died anno —, and is interred in St. Machar's church-yard, upon the South side, near to Mr. William Strachan's grave stone.

The seventh and second presbyterian professor of divinity in the King's college, is Mr. David Anderson, who was minister of the Gospel at the church of Foveran. His theological thesis at his admission was *De peccato originali*, anno 1711; he is yet living, and possesses the place of professorship this year 1726.

Anno 1727, the said Mr. David Anderson was made one of the King's chaplains, for which he is to get yearly fifty pounds sterling.

*Professor Anderson was succeeded by Mr John Lumsden Minister at Neithor-Banich*

Here follow the MORNING and EVENING SERVICE of the CATHEDRAL CHURCH, which were composed by Mr. HENRY SCUGAL Professor of Theology in the King's college.

#### THE MORNING PRAYER.

Great and glorious Lord God, maker of heaven and earth, and ruler of angels and men, who art infinitely exalted above the highest of our thoughts; look down from thy heavenly dwelling-place, and behold in mercy thy poor creatures, who are here humbled before Thee, to adore and worship thy Divine Majesty; to acknowledge our sins, and beg thy mercy and favour; to learn our duty from the word, and be further engaged to thy service and obedience. Raise our souls unto thyself, O God; and bow down thy gracious ears to hear our prayers. Let the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength,

Strength, and our Redeemer. Unworthy are we, alas! to come into thy presence, or to take thy holy name in our mouths, being the wicked offspring of sinful parents, strongly inclined to that which is evil, and averse to any thing that is truly good.

We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts; we have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name, and the salvation of our own souls. Preserve us, we beseech thee, from every thing that is displeasing in thy sight; and let never the temptations of Satan, the allurements of the world, or the corrupt custom, or bad example of those we live amongst, so far prevail with our evil hearts, as to draw us into those sins which may dishonour Thee, or wrong our neighbours, or wound our own consciences. Keep us, O Lord, from neglecting thy worship, or profaning thy holy ordinances; from abusing thy mercies, or murmuring at any of thy providences; and from that grievous sin which doth so much every where abound, the taking of thy holy name in vain. Work in us an utter detestation of all fraud and deceit, all malice and envy, all strife and contention, all slander and backbiting, that we may never do or wish any evil to others, nor delight to speak evil of them; let us never deface thy image, nor grieve thy holy spirit, by pride, passion, or discontent; by gluttony, drunkenness, or uncleanness, or any of those filthy vices whereby the greatest part of the world are carried headlong into perdition. But teach us so to obey thy holy laws, and follow the perfect example which the Lord Jesus has given us, that we may assure to ourselves an interest in that everlasting happiness

which is the purchase of his precious blood. To this end, bless us in reading and hearing thy holy word; that it may instruct our judgments, and affect our hearts, and rule our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

After reading the Holy Scriptures, followeth the decalogue, and this prayer:

All honour, praise, and glory be ascribed to thy Divine Majesty, O God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, by us and all reasonable creatures; for thy infinite perfections, which we can never comprehend; for the creation, and that wise providence whereby Thou rulest and governest the same; for all thy mercies we have met with since we came into the world; that thou hast preserved us from so many evils, and bestowed so many good things upon us. We bless Thee for our health and strength, for our food and raiment, for all the means of our subsistence, and comforts of our life. That it hath pleased Thee to preserve us, and our habitations, this bygone night, from fire, violence, and every evil accident; and to bring us in safety to the beginning of this day. But above all, we adore and magnify Thee, for that infinite mercy thou hast declared unto mankind, in Christ Jesus our Lord; for the example of his holy life; for the merit of his bitter death; for all the means of grace, and for the hopes of everlasting glory. But what are we, to set forth thy praise! Let the people praise thee, O God; yea let all the people praise thee. Make thy ways known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations; that from the rising of the sun, to the going down thereof, there may be an holy and acceptable sacrifice offered unto thee. Open the eyes of the blind Jews. Bring in the fulness of the Gentiles. Deliver the world from Popish superstition, and the carnal delusion of Mahomet, and every thing that may hinder the progress and power of this everlasting gospel, by which we are taught to pray unto Thee.

Inspire thy universal church with the spirit of holiness and love; and grant unto all Christian kings, princes, and governors, a large measure of wisdom and grace, that they may be both able and willing to advance the great interests of piety and religion.



Endue our sovereign the King with the spirit of counsel and judgment; make him happy in wise and faithful counsellors, in loyal and peaceable subjects, and in the good success of all his enterprises, for thy glory, and his people's tranquillity.

Bless all our rulers and magistrates, that judgment may run as a river, and righteousness as a mighty stream.

Illuminate all the bishops and pastors of thy flock, that they may feed the people with knowledge, and lead them in the ways of righteousness.

Grant that all men in every condition of life may be contented, bettered, and amended.

Comfort the afflicted, relieve the poor, heal the sick and diseased, especially those recommended to the aid of our prayers.

Bless us with seasonable weather, that the earth may yield her increase, and the poor be satisfied with bread.

Bless all our friends and neighbours. Reward those that have done us good; and pardon all those that have done us evil. Take care of us, and all our interests, throughout this day; guide us by thy holy spirit, and guard us by thy watchful providence; and suffer no evil to come near our dwelling. Bless us in our out-going and in-coming, and establish the work of our hands.

Above all, enable us to do something for thy glory, and the salvation of our souls; and grant that we may return with our hearts full of love and thankfulness to thee, in the evening, to praise and magnify thy continued favour towards us. And when those few days and nights which we are to pass in this wretched and sinful world shall come to a close, conduct us, O most merciful Father, unto that everlasting blessedness which was purchased by the blood of our glorious Redeemer; by whom we are encouraged to address ourselves unto thee; and in whose most holy words we close our imperfect prayers, as he hath taught us, saying, *Our Father, &c.*

#### THE EVENING SERVICE.

Almighty and eternal God, who dwellest in the highest heavens, and humblest thyself to behold the things that

are done on the face of the earth; we are assembled together in thy sanctuary, to offer our Evening sacrifice unto thee; but we may be justly ashamed at the thoughts of thy glory, and afraid to present ourselves before so great and holy a Majesty; even that abounding grace that invites us to thee, may make us blush and cover our faces for shame, when we reflect on our base ingratitude to so much undeserved love. It was thou who madest us, and not we ourselves; and thou sent us thy Son to die for us, and offerest us the assistance of the Holy Ghost, to bring us unto thyself; but we have not paid that honour and service which we owed unto thee our Almighty Creator; nor valued as we ought that great Salvation purchased for us at so dear a rate; nor duly followed the godly motions of thy Holy Spirit. We have many times neglected the duties of thy worship, and profaned thy holy ordinances; we have abused thy mercies, and murmured against thy rod, and seldom set thee before our eyes; and whereas thou hast commanded us to love our neighbours as ourselves, we have also been very injurious to them by evil counsel and bad example, by prejudicing their interest, and wronging their reputation, doing them hurt or neglecting to do them good.

And though we were made for no meaner happiness than the enjoyment of thy blessed self, yet we have set our hearts too much on worldly pleasures and enjoyments; and instead of that moderate use of thy good creatures which thou art pleased to allow us, have abused them by excess unto the prejudice of our souls.

Thus, Lord, we have sinned against our own knowledge and our vows, against thy promises and threatenings, and all the gracious methods thou hast used to reclaim us, and do thereby deserve thy wrath, and all the dreadful effects of it, as the just recompence of our offences.

Nay, we acknowledge, O God, the very sins of this day were enough to condemn us, for we have done little good and much evil since the beginning of it; our thoughts have been vain and trifling, our words foolish or sinful, our actions for the greatest part either evil or to little purpose; and though we be one day now nearer our graves, we  
have

have made little progress in that work for which thou hast sent us into the world; and now, while we are confessing these things unto thee, the little sensibleness of our hearts brings new accusations against us. Oh! how just were it with thee that we should lament these follies and sins unto all eternity, which we now confess with so little grief and bitterness of spirit!

But though we are among the chief of sinners, yet thou art our Creator, and we the workmanship of thy hands; yea thou art our Redeemer, and we thy people whom thou hast bought; and we desire to forsake the evil of our ways and turn to thee the Lord our God, from whom we have gone so far astray. Have mercy upon us, therefore, O most merciful Father, for thy goodness sake, and for the merits of the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world, blot out all our iniquities. By his agony and bloody sweat, by his death and bitter passion, by all that he hath done and suffered for us, deliver us from the guilt of our sins and the power of our corrupt affections, and work in our souls an utter detestation of every evil way. Enlighten our minds with true knowledge; purify our hearts with a lively faith and hope. Inflame our souls with a zealous affection towards thee, and love towards all men for thy sake, that it may be the greatest delight to advance thy honour and glory, and do all the good we can to those amongst whom we live. Make us humble and lowly in our own eyes, meek and patient in our conversing with others; never doing wrong to any, and being ready to pardon the greatest injuries done to ourselves. Teach us to be submissive to all thy dispensations, and chearful and well content in every condition thou shalt be pleased to carve out unto us. Make us sober and temperate in all our enjoyments, pure and chaste in our affections and behaviour, watchful against every temptation, and diligent in the performance of all our duties. Let the life of the holy Jesus be always in our thoughts and before our eyes; that, being in love with all those excellent graces which shined in his blessed soul, we may never cease our endeavours, till the image of our Lord and Saviour be fully formed within our hearts.



And grant, O most merciful Father, that the reading and hearing of thy holy word at this time may help us there-to; and let the glory of all redound unto thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### The EVENING PRAYER,

After the reading the *Te Deum Laudamus*.

"We praise thee, O Lord, we acknowledge thee to be the Lord," &c. to this sentence, "Govern them, and lift them up for ever." Let peace be to our mother Sion, and let them prosper that love her and seek her good.

Bless and protect our sovereign lord the king. Establish his throne in righteousness, and let the crown flourish on his head. Bless his queen and brother, and all his royal relations. Let the lord of his majesty's privy council, the senators of the college of justice, and all inferior judges and magistrates be so directed and assisted by thy grace, that we may live quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty.

Send down upon thy servants the bishops and pastors of thy church such a plentiful measure of thy holy spirit as the weight and difficulty of their work doth require, and let them see of the fruit of their labours, and for a perpetual succession of those who may serve thee in church and state. Bless all schools and seminaries of learning, especially the University of this place; and prosper the labours of masters and scholars; that piety and knowledge may flourish therein. Be gracious to all ranks and conditions of men, and bless them with true piety, and with endowments suitable to their callings, and let success accompany their lawful endeavours; and as thou hast commanded us to remember in our prayers the troubles and necessities of others, we humbly intreat thee to look down with compassion on the necessities and calamities of mankind, and pity the works of thy hands. Have mercy, Lord, on ideots and fools, all mad and distracted persons, and supply the want of their reason by the conduct of thy Providence, and assistance of thy divine wisdom.

Speak

Speak peace to wounded consciences, and grant them the joy of thy salvation, so as the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Visit those whom hast cast on the bed of languishing, especially those that are recommended to the aid of our prayers. Send a happy deliverance to women travelling in child birth; and be near unto such as are drawing near the gates of death.

Comfort all those that are afflicted by loss of friends or any disastrous accident. Hear the cries of the poor, the sighs of the prisoner and captive, and the groans of all that are oppressed.

Be a father to the fatherless, a husband to the widow, a guide to wandering travellers, a pilot to those that go down to the deep; and when any do cry unto thee in their troubles, hear and deliver them out of their distress, that with hearts full of thankfulness they may praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men.

Be mindful of all them in whom we are nearly concerned, all our friends and relations, all our neighbours and acquaintances, all our well-wishers and benefactors. Pardon and forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers. We bless thee for that gracious providence whereby thou hast protected and maintained us through the bygone day; and we commend ourselves and all we have to thy fatherly goodness and care through the darkness of the night, that when we cannot take care of ourselves we may rest safely under the shadow of thy wings, and thou, O Lord, may'st sustain us. Defend us graciously from fire and violence, and all the powers of darkness, and raise our spirits, together with our bodies, in the morning, to such a vigorous sense of thy continued goodness, as may stir us up to serve thee with unwearied diligence all the day long.

These things, and whatever else thou knowest needful and expedient for us or for others, we beg in the name and words of thy son our Saviour, &c.

At the beginning of the late Revolution the aforesaid Morning and Evening Prayers were taken away by some Presbyterian men in Old Aberdeen.





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